

Dear USET SPF Membership/Health Directors,

Attached please find the [Dear Colleague letter from the Senate Diabetes Caucus Co-Chairs, Sen. Susan Collins and Sen. Jeanne Shaheen](#), requesting signatories to the letter to Senate leadership supporting reauthorization for the Special Diabetes Program, which includes the Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI).

**We are requesting that you reach out to Senate offices and request that they sign onto this letter underscoring the critical importance SDPI has within Indian Country.** Copies of the [Senate Dear Colleague letter](#) and [letter to Senate Leadership](#) are attached. Contact information for Senate offices is linked [here](#). I have also [attached](#) a one page fact-sheet on SDPI reauthorization from USET SPF.

Senate offices interested in signing on may contact Amy Pellegrino at [amy\\_pellegrino@aging.senate.gov](mailto:amy_pellegrino@aging.senate.gov), or Peter Fise at [peter\\_fise@shaheen.senate.gov](mailto:peter_fise@shaheen.senate.gov).

In addition, the House letter from my previous alert remains open with 416 signatories. Copies of the [Dear Colleague letter](#) and [letter to House Leadership](#) are attached. Offices interested in signing on, please refer staff to this link to input their boss' information: <https://goo.gl/forms/EUKyUs7ei69L1di03>.

Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN), Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor & Pensions has introduced [S.192, the Community and Public Health Programs Extension Act](#), which provides for a 5 year renewal for SDPI at the current level of \$150 million per year. Rep. Tom O'Halleran (D-AZ) is expected to introduce a House bill reauthorizing SDPI for the 116th Congress.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at the information below.

**Sisy Garcia** (*Cheyenne & Arapaho*)  
**Policy Analyst**  
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**Sovereignty Protection Fund (USET SPF)**  
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**From:** Sisy Garcia

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:10 AM

**Subject:** FW: SDPI Support Letter Released - Congressional Outreach needed!

Dear USET Health Directors,

Please see below outreach regarding a Congressional sign-on letter from the House Diabetes Caucus to Congressional Leadership to support reauthorization of the Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI), which expires on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019. In order to continue to make progress on the devastating effects of diabetes within Indian Country, Congress must reauthorize SDPI. USET SPF Tribal Nations and other federally recognized Tribal Nations across the country depend on the funding within this vital program to battle this debilitating disease. I have attached a [one page fact-sheet on SDPI](#) reauthorization from USET SPF.

**We are requesting that you reach out to House Offices and request that they sign onto this letter to House Leadership underscoring the critical importance SDPI has within Indian Country.** Copies of the Dear Colleague letter and letter to House Leadership are attached. Please send staff this link to input their boss' information: <https://goo.gl/forms/EUKyUs7ei69L1di03>.

A Senate letter is expected to be released soon as well.

Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN), Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor & Pensions has introduced [S.192, the Community and Public Health Programs Extension Act](#), which provides for a 5 year renewal for SDPI at the current level of \$150 million per year. Rep. Tom O'Halleran (D-AZ) is expected to introduce a House bill reauthorizing SDPI for the 116th Congress.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at the information below.

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**From:** Caitrin McCarron Shuy [<mailto:CShuy@nihb.org>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 19, 2019 9:41 AM  
**To:** Stacy A. Bohlen <[SBohlen@nihb.org](mailto:SBohlen@nihb.org)>  
**Cc:** Brett Weber <[BWeber@nihb.org](mailto:BWeber@nihb.org)>  
**Subject:** SDPI Support Letter Released - Congressional Outreach needed!

Dear Tribal Health Advocates –

I am writing today because today, the House Diabetes Caucus released a Congressional sign-on letter to Congressional leadership to support the Renewal of the [Special Diabetes Program for Indians \(SDPI\)](#). As

you may know, SDPI expires on September 30, 2019. This letter is something we have always worked on with our partners the American Diabetes Association, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and the Endocrine Society. In previous years, the letter has garnered signatures from 75% of the House and Senate. We hope we can build on this and have an even bigger showing with the new Congress. The list of the 2016 signers (most recent letter) is attached.

***We are requesting that you reach out to House Offices and request that they sign onto this letter.*** We expect the Senate letter to be released soon as well.

Please send staff this link to input their boss' information: <https://goo.gl/forms/EUKyUs7ei69L1di03>

Talking points for SDPI are attached. You can view our most recent fact sheets [here](#) and [here](#). State-by-state fact sheets are [here](#). A list of current grantees with funding amounts is located [here](#).

As far as bill introduction – the Senate HELP Committee has introduced a [5 year renewal for SDPI and other health extenders](#) at the current level of \$150 million/ year (S. 192). The House will be releasing separate bills on all the health extenders –including SDPI. Rep. O'Halleran (D-AZ) will lead the SDPI bill. We are looking at that introduction in late March and then hearings in late Spring or early Summer.

Please keep us posted as members sign on so we can keep track of which offices need outreach.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact either Stacy or myself. Thank you in advance for all your help!

Kind Regards,

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