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## MEMORANDUM

March 27, 2020

TO: TRIBAL HEALTH CLIENTS

FROM: HOBBS, STRAUS, DEAN & WALKER, LLP

RE: ***IHS Distribution of Second Emergency Relief Bill Funding and 2020 HHS Tribal Budget Consultation***

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The following reports on the Dear Tribal Leader Letter released today by the Indian Health Service (IHS) related to COVID-19 funds distribution and the upcoming Department of Health and Human Services virtual budget consultation for fiscal year (FY) 2020

### ***IHS Distribution of Currently Available \$134 million in COVID-19 Funding***

Today the IHS issued the attached letter to tribal and urban Indian organization leaders announcing its decision with regard to distribution of \$64 million designed to address COVID-19 issues. The funding was made available from the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, enacted March 18, 2020 (PL 116-127).

Urban Indian Organizations will receive \$3 million to be distributed via existing Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCIA) contracts. The letter also notes that there is an additional \$8 million for this purpose from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) allocated through the National Council of Urban Indian Health.

Federal and tribal health programs will receive the remaining \$61 million, using the existing distribution system. The letter states that contract support costs may be added to this funding, with negotiations to be made after the payments are made.

### ***2020 HHS Tribal Budget Consultation***

HHS will hold its annual Tribal Budget Consultation—a virtual consultation—on Wednesday April 8, 1:00-4:00 p.m. EDT. HHS will soon be providing dial-in information for the consultation. Information about the consultation can be found here: <https://web.cvent.com/event/4fe32b2c-d33d-4d75-840f-8b34214c26ff/summary>.

### ***Conclusion***

If you have any questions, please contact Elliott Milhollin ([emilhollin@hobbsstrauss.com](mailto:emilhollin@hobbsstrauss.com) or 202-822-8282); Geoff Strommer ([gstrommer@hobbsstrauss.com](mailto:gstrommer@hobbsstrauss.com) or 503-242-1745); or Karen J. Funk ([kfunk@hobbsstrauss.com](mailto:kfunk@hobbsstrauss.com) or 202-822-8282).