MAY 2024 LEGISLATIVE BRIEF UPDATE

May has been an eventful month, marked by numerous Federal and State responses. In our ever-evolving landscape, we aim to keep you informed with timely updates. CCUIH and its members actively engaged in advocacy efforts to protect the California Indian Health Program amid proposed budget cuts, participating in joint press releases, media campaigns, and multiple hearings. CCUIH is tracking 63 state bills relevant to UIOs and the AIAN community, with significant activity around the May Budget Revise. Federally, the NCUIH Annual Conference highlighted critical issues such as MMIP advocacy and 100% FMAP for urban Indian health. Upcoming FY 2025 appropriations and legislative updates, including the IHS Workforce Parity Act, underscore the continued push for enhanced resources and support for UIOs. Expect the comprehensive CCUIH legislative report in June.

STATE UPDATES

MAY Budget Revise Resources:

- 2024-25 May Revision General Fund Solutions
 - Senate Budget and Fiscal Review May 30, 2024
 - Assembly Budget Committee Report May 29, 2024
- Budget finalized June 15th
 - CCUIH and Member's Action on the Indian Health Program and other proposed cuts:
 - Joint Press Release with CCUIH and CRIHB
 - Media Campaign
 - Created Template Letters shared broadly
 - Submitted approximately 20 letters from UIOs, Tribal Governments, State and Federal supporting organizations
 - Attended multiple Hearings and provided comments
 - Thank you to everyone that helped contact their local legislators and legislator friends to voice the need to Protect the CA Indian Health Program

State Bills: This has been a busy legislative session, with the May Revise Taking Center Stage. CCUIH is currently tracking 63 Bills that cover numerous topics that may impact our UIOs and AIAN Community. (Please let us know if you would like updates on any specific legislation, assistance with writing any position letters, or would like us to attend a hearing.)

- May movement on select bills continuously changes, with multiple Hearings a
 week. For updates on hearing dates or to see the status of specific bills, you can
 contact us or see the link below.
 - State Bill Information:
 https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/home.xhtml
- AB 1863 California Emergency Services Act: notification systems: Feather Alert.
- AB 1955: Pupil health: school-based health services and school-based mental health services.
- AB 1965: Public health. Office of Tribal Affairs.
- AB 2108: Foster care: missing children and nonminor dependents.
- AB 2138: Peace officers: tribal police pilot project.
- AB 2250 Social determinants of health: screening and outreach
- AB 2711 Suspensions and expulsions: controlled substances: tobacco: alcohol: plans and protocols
- AB 2795: CalWORKs Indian Health Clinic Program.
- SB 1067: Healing arts: expedited licensure process: medically underserved area or population
- SB 1382: Community and rural health clinics: building standards.

FEDERAL UPDATES

- National Council of Urban Indian Health (NCUIH) Annual Conference that included conferring with VA and a Day on the Hill! The top priorities and discussions included:
 - Asking for a Congressional Review of the Social Security Act (SSA) Definition to protect UIOs from federal exclusion terminology
 - Educating and asking for 100% FMAP, this meant a lot of eduating on the Urban Indian Health Care Delivery System
 - Discussing actions legislators can take to further MMIP advocacy, protections, and support
 - Upcoming considerations regarding the UIO workforce
- HHS Urban Confer and Nation-to-Nation Tribal Consultation in Las Vegas
 - Continued Sharing with HHS from NCUIH Conference HHS Confer
 - Highlighted need for Syphilis focused outreach, intervention, and prevention efforts across Indian Country with Tribal and Urban Indian Health Programs
- OUIHP IHS Strategic Plan Confer: May 30, 2024 Live review and feedback
 - Written Comment Due Jun 28, 2024 IHS DRAFT
- CMS Traditional Healers Framework Update
 - From <u>3/20 NCUIH Policy Workgroup</u>: March 27 CMS Traditional Healing Framework
 - Comments Submitted

- Potential Impact on UIOs: The impact is significant. All UIOs are encouraged to submit comment letters on this issue. Both NCUIH and CCUIH have template letters to facilitate these comments.
- Urban Confer 5/1 on VA-UIO Reimbursement Agreement Program (RAP)
 - <u>DUIOLL</u> for the <u>revised Direct Care Services Reimbursement Agreement DRAFT</u>
 - Comments Submitted
- FY 2025 Appropriations Updates
 - On May 7-8, 2024, Todd Wilson, Executive Director of Helena Indian Alliance-Leo Pocha Clinic and NCUIH Board Member, will be NCUIH's witness for the House Appropriations Committee's Al/AN Witness Day.
 - NCUIH helped draft the House Dear Colleague Letter requesting the Tribal Budget Formulation Work Group (TBFWG) FY25 requests for the Urban Indian Health line item (\$965.3M) and IHS (\$53.85B).
 - Potential Impact on UIOs: This involvement highlights a significant advocacy effort poised to significantly boost the resources available to UIOs, enhancing their capacity to provide comprehensive healthcare services. UIOs are encouraged to contact your Members of Congress to support this vital funding initiative.
- Legislative Updates
 - S.3022 IHS Workforce Parity Act
 - On May 1, 2024, the NCUIH-endorsed legislation allowing part-time IHS providers to receive full scholarship benefits was ordered to be reported favorably during a Senate Committee on Indian Affairs markup.

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