

June 15, 2016

Representative Kristi Noem
2422 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20525

Dear Representative Noem:

Please accept the gratitude and support of Sanford Health for your efforts to address the ongoing and complex problems facing care delivery at Indian Health Services (“IHS”) units across the state of South Dakota and beyond. Sanford Health shares your hope that the *HEALTH Act of 2016* offers meaningful pathways toward enhanced American Indian health care and more efficient utilization of precious health care resources.

As you know, the systemic challenges that have historically afflicted IHS generate harmful effects beyond unacceptable care. Non-IHS providers, particularly those in close proximity to Indian Country, are increasingly stressed by unexpected patient volumes, payor uncertainty, and difficult case mixes. A healthier IHS system stands to support an improved, more sustainable health care ecosystem statewide.

Sanford Health remains committed to providing care to underserved populations and lending its expertise where needed. Accordingly, please look to Sanford Health as a resource in your continued efforts to address this issue. And again, thank you for your vision and leadership.



Tim Rave, Enterprise Vice President of Public Policy
Sanford Health
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