



**OFFICE OF TRIBAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
WASHINGTON, DC**

December 30, 2014

Dear Tribal Leader:

As you may be aware, Congress enacted the Veterans Access, Choice and Accountability Act of 2014 (the Choice Act) this past August. The Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Director of the Indian Health Service are required by Section 102 (c) of the Choice Act to jointly submit to Congress a report on the feasibility and advisability of entering into and expanding certain reimbursement agreements.

By this letter and Federal Register Notice dated December 30, 2014, VA is initiating Tribal Consultation on the feasibility and advisability of the Indian Health Service and Tribal Health Programs entering into agreements with VA for reimbursement of the costs of direct care services provided to eligible Veterans who are not American Indian or Alaska Native.

Written comments may be submitted to Tracey Parker Warren, VA Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, Office of Tribal Government Relations by e-mail at Tribalgovernmentconsultation@va.gov, by fax to (202) 273-5716, or by hand-delivery to Director, Office of Tribal Government Relations (075F), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Room 1068, Washington, DC 20420. Comments should indicate that the submission is in response to the "Notice of Tribal Consultation: Section 102 (c) of the Veterans Access, Choice and Accountability Act of 2014."

Comments must be received by VA on or before January 14, 2015.

For questions or further information, contact Tracey Parker Warren, VA Office of Tribal Government Relations by phone at (202) 461-7400, or by email at Tribalgovernmentconsultation@va.gov.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephanie E. Birdwell". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Stephanie E. Birdwell
Director