

# COLT

## COALITION OF LARGE TRIBES

Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nations / Oglala Sioux Tribe / Navajo Nation / Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux Tribe / Blackfeet Tribe of Montana / Rosebud Sioux Tribe / Spokane Tribe / Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe / Ute Indian Tribe / Shoshone-Bannock Eastern Shoshone / Fort Belknap

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**Title: THE COALITION OF LARGE TRIBES. HEREBY SUPPORTS THE ROSEBUD SIOUX TRIBES STANCE ON TRIBAL EM AND THE TRIBES REQUEST TO HAVE AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE ORGANIZATION.**

**Resolution #: ABQ – 08 – 04/26/2018**

**WHEREAS**, the Coalition of Large Tribes (COLT) was formally established in early April 2011, and is comprised of Tribes with large land base, including the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nations, the Oglala Sioux Tribe, the Crow Tribe, the Navajo Nation, the Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux Tribe, the Blackfeet Tribe of Montana, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Northern Ute, Shoshone Bannock, Colville Confederated Tribes, Ft. Belknap and the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe. COLT is chaired by Chairman Russell Begaye of the Navajo Nation; and

**WHEREAS**, COLT was organized to provide a unified advocacy base on all issues affecting Tribes that govern large trust land bases and that strive to ensure the most beneficial use of those lands for tribes and individual Indian landowners; and

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Government has a unique legal and political relationship with Tribes, which is recognized in the U.S. Constitution, statutes, and Supreme Court decisions; and

**WHEREAS**, Congress has a treaty-based obligation to provide quality health care for Tribal members; and

**WHEREAS**, the Indian Health Service has a duty to ensure that companies they hire to staff IHS facilities are honest and do not waste federal taxpayer dollars; and

**WHEREAS**, the Great Plains office of the Indian Health Service recently awarded a contract to a company, Tribal Emergency Medicine (Tribal EM), whose owner, Joh Schufelt's prior company Next Care was investigated for Medicaid and Medicare fraud, and paid a \$10 million fine to settle the fraud investigation; and

**WHEREAS**, Tribal EM has no Tribal or Native American ownership; and

**WHEREAS**, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe has made clear to IHS that they do not want Tribal EM providing services on the Rosebud Indian Reservation; and

**WHEREAS**, United States Senator Mike Rounds has requested that IHS investigate Tribal EM; and

**WHEREAS**, Dishonest health care vendors represent a clear and present danger to health care for our people; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coalition of Large Tribes (COLT) Executive Director Legislative Affairs, will deliver said resolution to the COLT Congressional Delegations and proper Committees and work with them on said resolution; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that COLT supports the request made by US Senator Mike Rounds to investigate the contract awarded to Tribal EM; and

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that COLT supports the request by the Rosebud Sioux Tribe to IHS to replace Tribal EM as a provider of staff on the Rosebud Indian Reservation; and

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that COLT recommends that the United States Health and Human Services (HHS) Inspector General investigate the circumstances of the IHS award to Tribal EM; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that this resolution shall be the policy of COLT until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

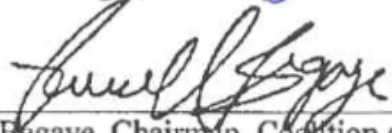
#### **CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was enacted at a duly called meeting of the Coalition of Large Tribes held in Albuquerque, New Mexico on April 26th, 2018, at which a quorum was present, with the resolution approved unanimously.

Dated this 26<sup>th</sup> day of April 2018.

Attest:

  
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David Browneagle, Secretary, Coalition of Large Tribes

  
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Russell Begaye, Chairman, Coalition of Large Tribes