



Support House Bill 1564 and companion Senate Bill 5569

Access or negotiate higher rates to help facilities care for Tribal elders

The bill will allow eligible tribal facilities to access rates outside of the usual rate methodology in order to receive higher rates that are 100% federally matched.

Do you have a Tribal elder? Do you want to keep them close to home?

Many tribes, including the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation in the State of Washington, are working to keep their **elders** in the community. Currently more than a dozen of these nursing home facilities are operating in Tribal Reservations, all of which are Medicaid or Medicare certified. This includes the Colville Tribal Convalescent Center (CTCC) located within the Colville Reservation.

The facility is designed to protect the health and safety of residents, staff, and the public. It consists of 44 beds and provides a clean, comfortable, and homelike environment for residents.

CTCC's current Medicaid payment-to-cost gap is significantly large and is likely to negatively impact the ongoing operations. Please **support House Bill 1564** and **companion Senate Bill 5569** to address the Nursing Home Encounter Rate Problem and allow eligible tribal facilities to access a higher encounter rate or negotiate an enhanced rate for clients who are tribal members **at no cost to the state**. It is estimated that there will be 2.5 times as many Native American elders in 2030 as there were in 2012 that will need the benefits of this legislation.