



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Indian Health Service  
Rockville MD 20857

January 27, 2026

Dear Tribal Leader and Urban Indian Organization Leader:

On November 13, 2025, the Indian Health Service (IHS) initiated a second round of Tribal Consultation and Urban Confer to seek your input on the next phase of the Agency's proposed realignment. On December 5, 2025, in response to feedback, the IHS expanded the Tribal Consultation schedule to add four additional sessions, including a virtual Consultation for a total of nine meetings, ending with the virtual Urban Confer on January 15, 2026.

I am writing to share that in response to verbal feedback during Consultations and written comments received regarding the timeline for the proposed realignment, I am extending the comment submission deadline for this Tribal Consultation and Urban Confer until **February 27, 2026**.

If you would like to submit written comments and recommendations:

- Please email **Tribal Consultation comments to: [consultation@ihs.gov](mailto:consultation@ihs.gov)**
- Please email **Urban Confer comments to: [urbanconfer@ihs.gov](mailto:urbanconfer@ihs.gov)**
- Please use the **SUBJECT LINE: IHS Proposed Realignment**

Additional information on the proposed realignment can be found at:  
<https://www.ihs.gov/tribalconsultation/ihs-realignment/>.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Xavier Yazzie, Office of the Director, by email at [xavier.yazzie@ihs.gov](mailto:xavier.yazzie@ihs.gov) or by telephone at (301) 945-3755.

As previously shared, after the comment period closes, the IHS will enter an internal deliberation phase to review all feedback received, prior to moving through internal clearance for finalization and implementation.

Thank you for your continued partnership and leadership in advancing the health and well-being of Tribal and Urban Indian communities. Your insight and guidance are essential to this work, and we remain committed to a process that is transparent, inclusive, and responsive to your input.

Sincerely,

Clayton Fulton  
Chief of Staff  
(Delegated Authority of the IHS Director)