

2026 ADVOCACY PLAN

Committee Meeting: First Wednesday of the scheduled month.

Time: 1:00 pm Central Time

Dates: January 7, April 1, July 1, October 7

PURPOSE

The Advocacy Committee is responsible for advancing legislative advocacy during the reauthorization of federal legislation and promulgation of federal rules and regulations. It also communicates relevant issues to the NIHSDA Board of Directors and membership.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. To inspire and engage the full board in public policy advocacy that impacts the Association’s ability to achieve our mission
2. To monitor progress on public policy priorities and to keep the board informed about advocacy opportunities
3. To identify board advocacy priorities annually and bring to full board for adoption
4. To develop an annual advocacy plan and track/report on progress toward that plan
5. To develop and disseminate advocacy materials

GOALS

POLICY AGENDA

REVIEW PREVIOUS POLICY AGENDA NOVEMBER
Look at the past year’s topics and the response from OHS. Strike any that are no longer an issue.

IDENTIFY NEW ISSUES

Survey and hold workgroup meetings with the board and membership to identify any new issues and prioritize NOVEMBER

Write comments discussing new issues..... DECEMBER

DRAFT POLICY AGENDA..... DECEMBER

DISSEMINATE POLICY AGENDA..... JANUARY

Send to AIAN programs and tribal leaders

Share with all advocacy partners

Present to Congressional leaders

FORWARD FINAL CONSULATION REPORTS ONGOING

Send to AIAN programs and tribal leaders as they are completed

APPROPRIATIONS

- DETERMINE APPROPRIATION AMOUNTS NEEDED TO MEET REGION XI NEEDS JANUARY
- REVIEW PRESIDENT’S PROPOSED APPROPRIATIONS MARCH
- REVIEW HOUSE/SENATE PROPOSED APPROPRIATIONS APRIL
- DEVELOP DRAFT COMMENTS AND DISSEMINATE TO COMMITTEE’S APRIL
- DEVELOP COMMENTS AND PRESENT TO NCAI AND NIEA APRIL
- SUBMIT REQUEST TO TESTIFY APRIL

ADVOCACY

- REVIEW INFO PACKET ON VISITS WITH ELECTED OFFICIALS FOR GRANTEES DECEMBER
Calendar, how to set up meetings, sample letter, info to send to local news, importance of AIAN HS, tips for the meeting
- CREATE AND SEND WELCOME LETTERS TO NEW CONGRESS JANUARY
- DEVELOP WHITE PAPERS AND TEMPLATE LETTERS ON SPECIFIC TOPICS..... ONGOING
- PLAN VISITS TO DC 2X/YEAR
- DEVELOP PROCESS TO GATHER IMPACT STORIES..... JANUARY
- REVIEW EARLY CHILDHOOD DRAFT LEGISTATION ONGOING

POLICY INSITUTE 2027

- IDENTIFY AND SECURE DATES FEBRUARY
- DEVELOP DRAFT BUDGET MARCH
- DEVELOP OUTREACH AND MARKETING PLAN APRIL
- DEVELOP DRAFT AGENDA JUNE