 Adopted: September 5, 2021

POLICY 6 LATE BREAKERS POLICY

**Late Breakers Policy**

The AIANNH Caucus works with American Public Health Association (APHA) to promote policy beneficial to Native health needs to assure quality care and equal access. The AIANNHC provides a supportive entry into APHA, promotes equal opportunity and access for Native American peoples of North America and the Hawaiian Islands to health care, and disseminates information about major Native health issues and programs.

The Policy & Resolutions Committee of the AIANNH Caucus works with APHA to develop and review Policy Statements that are officially adopted by APHA. APHA defines Policy Statements as:

**“What is a policy statement?**APHA members develop policy statements on key public health topics, from obesity to breastfeeding to control of infectious diseases to eliminating health disparities. Proposed policy statements only become official APHA policy statements after approval by the APHA Governing Council at the Annual Meeting.

**How can I use APHA policy statements?**
Our policy statements:

* help shape APHA's position on legislation and regulations.
* are used to write briefs and statements on many public health issues.
* highlight the latest research on specific public health topics.
* are the source of information for reference and resource information for the public, such as infographics, fact sheets and reports.

<https://apha.org/Policies-and-Advocacy/Public-Health-Policy-Statements>”

On occasion, the Caucus receives Late Breaking Policy Statements that are relevant to indigenous communities asking for endorsement. The Caucus must have adequate time to review and disseminate Policy Statements to interested indigenous communities for their input prior to endorsement. Therefore, it is the policy of the AIANNH Caucus that requests for endorsement must be presented 30 days prior to endorsement, giving the Caucus Policy & Resolutions committee time to review and make recommendations to the Executive Committee, with exceptions only as authorized by the AIANNH Caucus Executive Committee.