

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1708

To provide additional appropriations to the Indian Health Service, and for  
other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 9, 2021

Mr. RUIZ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee  
on Appropriations

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## A BILL

To provide additional appropriations to the Indian Health  
Service, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Tribal Health Care  
5 Protection Fund Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FUNDING FOR INDIAN HEALTH.**

7 (a) In addition to amounts otherwise available, there  
8 is appropriated to the Secretary for fiscal year 2021, out  
9 of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated,  
10 \$2,000,000,000, to remain available until expended, for

1 lost reimbursements in accordance with section 207 of the  
2 Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C. 1621f).

3 (b) Funds appropriated by subsection (a) shall be  
4 made available to restore amounts, either directly or  
5 through reimbursement, for obligations for the purposes  
6 specified in this section that were incurred to prevent, pre-  
7 pare for, and respond to COVID–19 during the period be-  
8 ginning on the date on which the public health emergency  
9 was declared by the Secretary on January 31, 2020, pur-  
10 suant to section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42  
11 U.S.C. 247d) with respect to COVID–19 and ending on  
12 the date of the enactment of this Act.

13 (c) Funds made available under subsection (a) to  
14 Tribes and Tribal organizations under the Indian Self-De-  
15 termination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C.  
16 5301 et seq.) shall be available on a one-time basis. Such  
17 non-recurring funds shall not be part of the amount re-  
18 quired by section 106 of the Indian Self-Determination  
19 and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5325), and such  
20 funds shall only be used for the purposes identified in this  
21 section.

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