



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

MAR 12 2003

The Honorable Richard W. Pombo
Chairman, Committee on Resources
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Pombo:

Title VI of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (Public Law 93-638, as amended), requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to conduct a study on the feasibility of a tribal self-governance demonstration project for appropriate programs, services, functions and activities of the agency and to submit a report of this study to Congress. The enclosed report has been prepared in response to this requirement.

In the report, the Department concludes that a demonstration project is feasible and the report identifies 11 HHS programs that might be included in a demonstration. The report also delineates legislative changes that would be necessary to include the recommended programs in the demonstration and implement the recommended design of the demonstration. The separate views of the tribes and other entities that were consulted in the development of the study are located in appendix G of the report.

I am pleased to transmit this report to Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tommy G. Thompson".

Tommy G. Thompson

Enclosure