



*Mark -
 on the 155we
 for Tribal State
 Committee*

Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
 Rose Soulier, Chairwoman
 Jeanne Gordon, Secretary
 88385 Pike Road, Hwy 13
 Bayfield, WI 54814

cc: [Signature]

received
 9-10-08 [Signature]

Chairman Soulier;

On behalf of the Tribal Elders and Tribal members with disabilities, we the Wisconsin Tribal Aging Directors, respectfully request your assistance to support changes in funding for Elderly and Disabled transportation provided by the State of Wisconsin. Governor Doyle is currently requesting input from Tribal leadership for the 2009 to 2011 biennium budget and the use of compact gaming revenues.

Our Elders possess unique and irreplaceable stores of knowledge, skill, and experience that enhance and enrich the lives of the all of our Communities. The interests of the Community, now and in the future, are advanced when our Elders remain confident they are free to fully participate in the activities and proceedings of the Community. The proven health disparities of many of our rural communities dictate the need for transportation for the elders and the disabled. The current escalation of fuel costs is devastating our ability to provide this much needed service.

For many Tribes, the funding or sharing of Transportation funds from Counties and Agencies received through provisions 85.21, 5310 and 53.11 funding is inadequate and does not meet the needs of Tribes.

In many cases, 85.21 specifically, Tribes are forced to negotiate through Counties or contracted agencies. Currently many Tribes are required to obtain approval from a County Board Chairman to be recognized as an Aging Unit and to negotiate to receive funding. There is no legislative authority under 85.21 which would allow Tribes to negotiate directly with the State of Wisconsin for transportation issues. This provision does not allow for direct government to government negotiations and requires cumbersome negotiations with County government to receive this much needed and underfunded service. Unfortunately the last Tribal/State Consultation meeting with the Department of Transportation (Gwen Carr) occurred after the 2007-2009 Tribal/State budget negotiation meeting leaving this issue to be addressed during the following budget cycle.

The Wisconsin Tribal Aging Directors Association is requesting your Tribe to recommend to the Governor to appropriate \$1,000,000 of Tribal gaming revenue appropriations in the 2009-2011 biennium's for Tribal Aging and Disability Transportation services (under 85.21). Allocation of this funding to the Tribes

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Member Tribes:
Bad River Band of the
Lake Superior Tribe of
Chippewa Indians

Forest County
Potawatomi
Community

Ho Chunk Nation

Lac Courte Oreilles
Band of Lake Superior
Chippewa Indians of
Wisconsin

Lac du Flambeau Band
of Lake Superior
Chippewa Indians

Lac Vieux Desert
Band of Lake Superior
Chippewa Indians

Menominee Indian
Tribe of Wisconsin

Oneida Tribe of
Indians of Wisconsin

Red Cliff Band of
Lake Superior
Chippewa Indians

St. Croix Chippewa
Indians of Wisconsin

Sokaogon Chippewa
Community

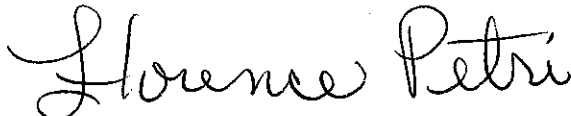
Stockbridge-Munsee
Community

should determined thought normal Department of Transportation (DOT)/Tribal consultation channels.

If you can support this provision in your request it will be greatly appreciated. If you can let us know of your decision, you may contact or write to me at:

Florence Petri, Chair of Wisconsin Tribal Aging Directors Association
Oneida Nation Elderly Services
2907 S. Overland Rd.
Oneida, WI 54155

Please consider our request and know we work diligently every day to provide services to the Elders and Disabled members of our Communities.



Florence Petri, Chair Wisconsin Tribal Aging Directors Association
Oneida Nation, Elderly Services Director