

# Committee approves \$1.5 million in emergency medical services

On April 8 and 12, 1976, a delegation headed by Mr. Carl Jack, director Health Affairs Division, AFN, Inc., appeared before the House and Senate subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies (House and Senate Appropriations Committee) and requested a sum total of \$3,519,507 for Alaska to be appropriated through Indian Health Service for direct health service for Alaska natives for fiscal year 1977.

The request was divided into three main categories: namely

1) Direct medical services to be provided by Norton Sound Health Corporation, Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation and Mauneluk Association for \$1,419,507.00; 2) \$200,000.00 for AFN Inc. Health Affairs Division to provide technical assistance to Regional Health corporations; 3) \$1,415,000.00 for Emergency Medical Services to be provided by the regional health corporation and 4) \$485,000 for Statewide Mental Health program.

Of the total request, the

committee approved \$1.5 million to be added to Indian Health Service for Emergency Medical Services to be provided by the Regional Health Corporations. The distribution is as follows: \$265,000.00 for the Tanana Chiefs Health Authority; \$225,000.00 for Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation; \$315,000.00 for Southern EMS councils; \$15,000 for the North Slope Borough; \$125,000 for the Norton Sound Health Corporation; \$115,000 to the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation; \$125,000 for Mauneluk Association and \$130,000 for Southeastern Alaska Health Corporation.

"We are extremely lucky to get \$1.5 million in congressional add-ons that is over and above the IHS budget base with its mandatory increase for FY '77," stated Carl Jack, director Health Affairs Division. "The appropriated funds for EMS will greatly help the regions to implement their regional EMS plans that they have been working on during the past year under their nominal grant from the State of Alaska. The implementation of the regional EMS plans will have a positive effect in improving the quality of health services provided to the people. I expect the Alaska Area Native Health Service to contract with the regions once the funds are apportioned to the Alaska Area Office," he further stated.

The Health Affairs Division has also been notified that the Bureau of Health Resources Administration in Rockville, Maryland, was recently awarded a contract to Health Systems, Inc., of 100 West State Street, Boise, Idaho, 83702, to serve as the officially designated Health Planning Center for HEW Region Ten, comprising the states of Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. The primary function of this center will be to provide a viable data base for the Health System Agencies designated within the four states implementing P.L. 93-641, National Health Planning and Resource Development Act. James Cambareri, Ph.D., has been designated as project officer for the contract and is assisted by Mr. Doug Mitchell.