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Arizona Public Health Association  
Annual Meeting  
September 17, 1986

- WHEREAS, there are 502,000 Hispanics in the State of Arizona, comprising 17 percent of the state's population; and
- WHEREAS, 63 percent of Arizona Hispanics speak Spanish at home, indicating their preference or necessity to function in Spanish; and
- WHEREAS, persons receiving medical care have a right to informed consent, so as to understand the treatment, alternatives, risks and benefits; and
- WHEREAS, hospitalization for illness, accident or surgery can be particularly alienating and frightening for those who don't speak English;
- THEREFORE, the Arizona Public Health Association resolves to:
1. Urge hospitals and other health care providers in Arizona to recruit Spanish-speaking professional staff;
  2. Urge hospitals and other health care providers to have Spanish interpreters with some medical training on duty, if there is a lack of Spanish-speaking health professionals;
  3. Encourage health care providers to establish Spanish language training for non-Spanish speaking staff;
  4. Encourage Spanish-speaking persons to enter the health field.
  5. Send a copy of this resolution to hospital and clinic administrators statewide and to the Governor.

Population data from Phoenix/Tucson Latin Market Study by Strategy Research Corporation, 1985.

*Approved - 9-18-86  
Az PHA Business Meeting  
Pat Zurek, Executive Secy.*