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NCAI HEADQUARTERS 1516 P Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20005 202.466.7767 202.466.7797 fax www.ncai.org

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #ATL-14-073

TITLE: Establish an American Indian/Alaska Native Exemption Application Customer Service Unit

WHEREAS, we, the members of the National Congress of American Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants the inherent sovereign rights of our Indian nations, rights secured under Indian treaties and agreements with the United States, and all other rights and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and Constitution of the United States, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise promote the health, safety and welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution; and

WHEREAS, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) was established in 1944 and is the oldest and largest national organization of American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight (CCIIO) oversees the implementation of the ACA provisions related to private health insurance and is charged with working with states to establish Health Insurance Marketplaces; and

WHEREAS, the federal Health Insurance Marketplace-Exemption Processing division in London, Kentucky processes exemption applications for eligible individuals from the individual shared responsibility payment, including the exemption applications of American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) and issues exemption certificate numbers; and

WHEREAS, many of the AI/AN exemption applications have yet to be processed or were processed incorrectly and require prompt resolution of issues so that AI/AN can be issued exemption certificate numbers.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, NCAI requests that Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight (CCIIO) establish an American Indian/Alaska Native exemption application customer service unit at the Health Insurance Marketplace-Exemption Processing division in London, Kentucky so all inquiries regarding pending American Indian/Alaska Native exemption applications can be responded to and/or resolved and exemption certificate numbers can be issued in a timely manner; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the General Assembly at the 2014 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta, October 26-31, 2014 in Atlanta, Georgia, with a quorum present.

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ATTEST:

Recording Secretary