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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 #PDX-11-012

TITLE: Support for RFD-TV (RURAL TV) and Call for More American Indian and Alaska Native Programming on Television

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, American Indians and Alaska Natives are one of the most underrepresented and misrepresented group on television, and there exists a lack of programming featuring American Indian and Alaska Natives; and

WHEREAS, American Indians and Alaska Natives need more visibility in television programming; and

WHEREAS, RFD-TV is one television network with a demonstrated track record of programming featuring American Indian and Alaska Native-related interests, including the television series "Hidden Heritage," and has prominently featured such interests in shows located in its Branson, Missouri theater and in its award-winning Native American-themed Tournament of Roses parade float; and

WHEREAS, RFD-TV is expanding its American Indian and Alaska Native programming, including a new weekly series that will chronicle Native American communities, featuring their history, traditions, art, economy, leadership and future.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI acknowledges and supports RFD-TV and other Native television projects including efforts to expand American Indian and Alaska Native television programming for all audiences; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI supports RFD-TV's and other efforts to expand television programming that features American Indians and Alaska Natives in its new related television network, RURAL TV; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI urges all cable and satellite providers to carry more American Indian and Alaska Native programming, and to add RFD-TV (and RURAL TV) to their existing lineups; and

BE IT FINALLY 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 2011 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, Oregon on October 30 - November 4, 2011, with a quorum present.

Profident

ATTEST: Thor **Recording Secretary**