



# NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

## The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #FTL-04-010

### **TITLE: Endorsement of the National American Indian Veterans, Inc. and Requesting the US Congress to Grant NAIIV, Inc. a Federal Charter**

**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 National American Indian Veterans, Inc. was formed on April 17, 2004 in Phoenix, AZ with the purpose of establishing a National Charter to create an umbrella for all American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian Veterans, Tribal Veterans Organizations, and Tribal Veterans Committees to be organized in unity under; and

**WHEREAS**, the National American Indian Veterans, Inc. will uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States while defending the sovereignty of the American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Nations; and

**WHEREAS**, the National American Indian Veterans, Inc. will unite under one body all American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Veterans who served in the US Armed Forces of the United States of America; and

**WHEREAS**, the National American Indian Veterans, Inc. will be an advocate on behalf of all American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Veterans without regard to whether they served during times of peace, conflicts and wars; and

**WHEREAS**, the National American Indian Veterans, Inc. will promote the social welfare (including educational, economic, social, physical, cultural values, and traditional healing) in the United States by encouraging the growth and development, readjustment, self-respect, self-confidence, contributions and self-identity of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Veterans; and

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**PRESIDENT**  
**Tex G. Hall**  
*Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation*

**FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT**  
**Joe A. Garcia**  
*Ohkay Owingeh*  
*(Pueblo of San Juan)*

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*Pauma-Yulima Band of Mission Indians*

**TREASURER**  
**W. Ron Allen**  
*Jamestown SKlallam Tribe*

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**Edward K. Thomas**  
*Tlingit and Haida Tribes*

**EASTERN OKLAHOMA**  
**Jefferson Keel**  
*Chickasaw Nation*

**GREAT PLAINS**  
**Harold Frazier**  
*Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe*

**MIDWEST**  
**Norman Adams, Jr.**  
*Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Indians*

**NORTHEAST**  
**Kevin Seneca**  
*Seneca Nation*

**NORTHWEST**  
**Ernie Stensgar**  
*Coeur d'Alene Tribe*

**PACIFIC**  
**Leslie Lohse**  
*Paskenta Band of Namlaki Indians*

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN**  
**Geri Small**  
*Northern Cheyenne Tribe*

**SOUTHEAST**  
**Eddie Tullis**  
*Poarch Band of Creek Indians*

**SOUTHERN PLAINS**  
**Zach Pahmahmie**  
*Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation*

**SOUTHWEST**  
**Manuel Heart**  
*Ute Mountain Ute*

**WESTERN**  
**Arlan Melendez**  
*Reno-Sparks Indian Colony*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
**Jacqueline Johnson**  
*Tlingit*

**NCAI HEADQUARTERS**  
1301 Connecticut Avenue, NW  
Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20036  
202.466.7767  
202.466.7797 fax  
[www.ncai.org](http://www.ncai.org)

**WHEREAS**, the National American Indian Veterans, Inc. will promote cooperation and assistance to all State and Federal agencies and governments to be more responsive and responsible to the needs of the American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Veterans, their families or surviving families to gain access for services and benefits entitled to them by law; and

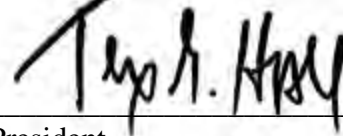
**WHEREAS**, the National American Indian Veterans, Inc. will promote, support and utilize research, on a nonpartisan basis, pertaining to the relationship between the American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Veterans and the American society; and

**WHEREAS**, the National American Indian Veterans, Inc. will provide technical assistance to the twelve (12) regional areas without Veterans committees or organizations and programs; to provide outreach services to those Tribes; to train and educate Tribal Veterans Service Officers for those American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians in need.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the NCAI does hereby endorse the National American Indian Veterans, Inc. (NAIV, Inc.) and is requesting the United States Congress to grant a Federal Charter to the National American Indian Veterans, Inc.

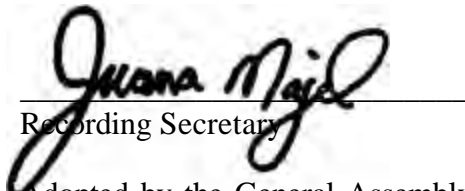
**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale, Florida on October 10-15, 2004 with a quorum present.



\_\_\_\_\_  
President

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held from October 10<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> at the Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.