



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #ABQ-10-104

TITLE: In Support of Tribal Government Administration of Indian Education

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 Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) is currently up for reauthorization and is the most important federal law that applies to tribal students; and

WHEREAS, tribal students, whether they attend Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) funded schools or state public schools, are served by all ESEA programs; and

WHEREAS, all ESEA programs could do more to help tribal students by recognizing a role, or by enhancing the role, including in public school education, of tribal governments as sovereign nations; and

WHEREAS, tribal governments are in the best position to implement tribal education priorities and coordinate state and federal education programs that serve tribal students.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby support the reauthorization of, and/or increasing, tribal eligibility for all pertinent ESEA program and formula funding including state level formula funding; and tribal administration of programs and services supported by such funding; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI supports tribal-state education compacts to coordinate tribal, state, and federal resources, and develop partnerships to improve tribal student academic performance and increase accountability; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI supports tribal-state compacts that encourage tribal administration of services currently provided by state education agencies for public schools located on Indian lands. These services include data collection, reporting, and analysis, and development of curricula, standards, assessments, teacher training, professional development, and Early Childhood and Head Start programs; and

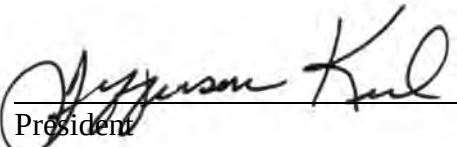
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI supports the authorization of intergovernmental agreements in education between tribes, public school districts and Early Childhood and Head Start programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI supports tribal administration of Indian education; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

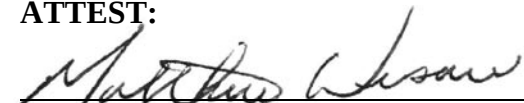
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the General Assembly at the 2010 Annual Convention of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Albuquerque Convention Center in Albuquerque, NM on November 14-19, 2010, with a quorum present.



President

ATTEST:



Recording Secretary