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The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #FTL-04-047

Title: Calling for Equal Funding For Nutrition Education for U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Nutrition Services Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations

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 and their way of life, 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, Tribes have epidemic occurrences of obesity, diabetes and other health related issues on the reservations; and

WHEREAS, NCAI believes that this disparity should be remedied and that Tribes should receive equal funding for nutrition education in order to better address the health issues they face; and

WHEREAS, the funding for nutrition education is presently taken out of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Nutrition Services Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations administrative budget of \$233 million dollars for nutrition education for 24 million participants, averaging \$9.71 per participant; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Nutrition Services Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations received \$1.93 per participant towards nutrition education, a \$7.78 per participant disparity in funding for FDPIR participants.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby call on Congress to fund USDA Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservation nutrition education programs at the same levels as the Food Stamp Agency is funded for nutrition education so that Tribes may better combat the health issues affecting their members.

CERTIFICATION

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

President

ATTEST:

Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during the 2004 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Broward County Convention Center, in Fort Lauderdale, Florida October 10-15, 2004.