



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #ABQ-03-062

Title: A Tribal Resolution Strongly Protesting Efforts and/or Legislation to Control P.L. 93-638 Contracting And Funding On A Regional Basis

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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 Kenaitz Indian Tribe, IRA has established long term goals which relate to the collective and individual, social, economic, and governmental concerns of its people; and

WHEREAS, the Kenaitze Indian Tribe, IRA, the largest 638 contracting tribe in the State of Alaska, has maintained P.L. 93-638 Self Determination Contracts with the Department of Interior and the Department of Health and Human Services since 1982 which have enabled the Kenaitze Indian Tribe, IRA to maintain a tribally operated Health and Dental Clinic, Indian Child Welfare Act Programs, General Assistance, Environmental Protection Program, Drug and Alcohol, Mental Health Programs, Prevention and Intervention Programs for our Tribal members and all Alaska Native and American Indians residing within our service area; further the Kenaitze Indian Tribe, IRA holds a Cooperative Agreement with the USDA Forest Service, has been funded by the National Park Service for NAGPRA and Historical preservation, is funded by the Administration of Native Americans for a Language Retention Program, the State Division of Family and Youth Services, State Employment Security Divisions; has established a Tribal Designated issued Educational Fishery Permit for our Tribal members for the past six years; and

WHEREAS, these programs steadily and consistently change, expand, and develop to serve our Tribal members and service populations; and have been used as models for similar programs and services throughout the State, Indian Country, and the Lower 48 thereby demonstrating the ability and capability of the Kenaitze Indian Tribe, IRA to successfully administer federal, state and other funded programs; and

WHEREAS, the Kenaitze Indian Tribe, IRA is very alarmed and concerned that funding and contracting through regional or state basis, will terminate and abolish the resolution process for Alaska Tribes and thereby negate the very purpose of the P.L. 93-638 Self Determination Act, effectively destroying the self-governance of all Native Americans; and

WHEREAS, the thirteen ANCSA corporations were created by legislation, and as such are regulated by State and Federal laws, do not have a government to government relationship with the United States, can only be considered as a "Tribe or Tribal Consortium" in the absence of a Tribal Government; and

WHEREAS, there are federally recognized tribes through-out Alaska to administer P.L. 93-638 funds on the behalf of all Alaska Natives; and

WHEREAS, the United States Government has a clear and defined fiduciary and moral responsibility to ensure the growth and stability of federally recognized tribes.

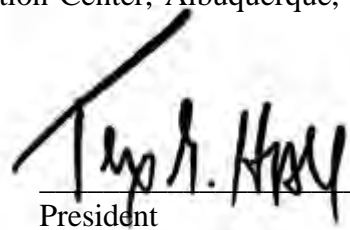
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby support the Kenaitze Indian Tribe, IRA and strongly opposes any efforts to recognize ANCSA corporations as tribes; and any efforts to distribute funding to be used for the benefit of its members and service population on a regional basis; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI strongly urges all Alaskan legislators, both federal and state, to do so also; and

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

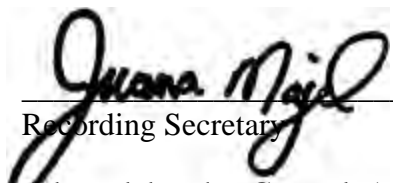
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 60th Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Albuquerque Convention Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico, on November 21, 2003 with a quorum present.



President

ATTEST:



Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during 60th Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, from November 17-21, 2003.