



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #FTL-04-040

TITLE: Support for the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) FY 2006 Federal Appropriations

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WHEREAS, we the members of the National Congress of American Indians in our own distinct territories, 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 Indian (NCAI) was established in 1944 and is the oldest and largest national organization of American Indian and Alaska Native tribal government; and

WHEREAS, the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) is a national fine arts college devoted solely to teaching and the preservation of American Indian and Alaska Native arts and culture; and

WHEREAS, the Institute of American Indian Arts is a national fine arts college offering baccalaureate degrees and associates degrees; and

WHEREAS, the Institute of American Indian Arts has educated over 6,000 American Indian/Alaska Native students since its inception in 1962; and

WHEREAS, NCAI is cognizant of the positive impact the Institute of American Indian Arts has made on the recognition of American Indian and Alaska Native Cultures via the arts; and

WHEREAS, the Institute of American Indian Arts is expanding its educational programs and is building a center for Lifelong Education, Research, and Cultural Exchange; and

WHEREAS, the Institute of American Indian Arts has been challenged by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to raise matching funds in the amount of twelve million dollars; and

WHEREAS, the Institute of American Indian Arts is seeking a total appropriation of eight million dollars from Congress for the Lifelong Learning Center; and

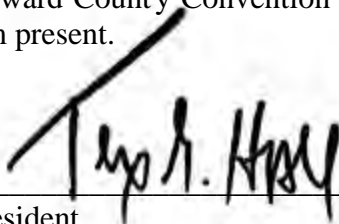
WHEREAS, NCAI is strongly committed to the enrichment and preservation of American Indian and Alaska culture and arts, and to the continuance of IAIA; and

WHEREAS, NCAI and tribal leaders continue to support the Institute of American Indian Arts' Board of Trustees as it works to ensure its future.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby urge the President of the United States and Congress to fully fund the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) at a level of \$7 million for core operations for Fiscal Year 2006 and \$4 million for construction of a center for Lifelong Education, Research, and Cultural Exchange.

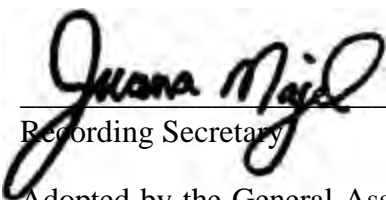
CERTIFICATION

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 on 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 from October 10th to the 15th at the Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.