



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #ABQ-10-108

TITLE: Urge the Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start to Further Consult with Federally Recognized Tribes re: Proposed Rule Changes in the Head Start Act of 2007

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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 Department of Health and Human Services/Administration of Children and Families/Office of Head Start (DHHS/ACF/OHS) has proposed rule changes in the Head Start Act of 2007; and

WHEREAS, the proposed rule changes have been published in the Federal Register and the closing date for comments is December 12, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the proposed rule changes pertaining to re-competition and unannounced site visits impinge on Tribal Sovereignty.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI calls upon DHHS/ACF/OHS to remove the notice on the proposed rule changes to the Head Start Act of 2007 from the Federal Register until there is further consultation with federally recognized Tribes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI strongly encourages DHHS/ACF/OHS to adopt communication and consultation protocols, in collaboration with Tribal Leaders, to alleviate the continued misunderstanding of the Head Start Act and tribal sovereignty; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

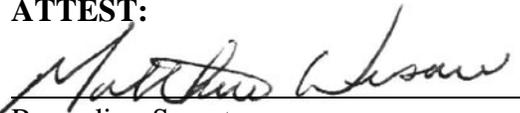
CERTIFICATION

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