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NCAI HEADQUARTERS

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The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #ABQ-10-112

TITLE: Establishing the National Congress of American Indians' Policy to Assist Tribal Governments in the Implementation of the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010

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 Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 sets forth a number of opportunities for Tribes to improve and expand upon existing programs designed to strengthen tribal courts, police departments and correction centers, as well as programs to address alcohol and substance abuse issues and to deter domestic and sexual violence in Indian Country; and

WHEREAS, for Tribes to fully realize the benefits and programs made available from the Tribal Law and Order Act, it is necessary for Tribes to further develop and amend their existing law and order codes as well as other existing policies that are relevant to the programmatic reauthorizations and opportunities made available under the Tribal Law and Order Act; and

WHEREAS, many Tribal Governments do not have the necessary resources to undertake a comprehensive review and amendment of their law and order codes and tribal policies in order to fully realize the benefits and programs made available to Tribes under the Tribal Law and Order Act; and

WHEREAS, the NCAI believes that it is essential that all Tribes have equal access to the benefits and programs made available under the Tribal Law and Order Act and that the terms of the Act are adopted by Tribes in accordance with uniform and effective protocols.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI shall assist Tribal Governments in the review and amendment of their law and order codes and tribal policies in order to allow Tribes to fully realize the benefits and programs made available to them under the Tribal Law and Order Act; and

BE IN FURTHER RESOLVED, the NCAI shall work with Tribes in developing model tribal law and order code provisions and uniform and effective protocols that will ensure that the provisions of the Tribal Law and Order Act are implemented in a sound and efficient manner throughout Indian Country; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI Executive Committee and Executive Director is empowered to take any action consistent with and in order to carry out the intent of this Resolution; 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.

Hyguson K Profident

ATTEST

Recording Secretary