



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

RESOLUTION #SD-02-005

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Title: To Amend the July 25, 2002 Tribal Sovereignty Protection Bill Draft to Protect Tribal Traditional and Customary Governance Practices From Federal Court Review

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, The Pueblo Indian Tribes of New Mexico and Other Tribes Seek to Protect their traditional and customary governance practices; and

WHEREAS, NCAI Resolution #SPO-01-105 "Supporting the All Indian Pueblo Council, Pueblos, and Pueblo Peoples Sovereignty Resolution 2001-32" supported the National Tribal Sovereignty Protection Initiative to protect as many as possible, the "original rights of the Pueblos as independent sovereigns;" and

WHEREAS, Section 7 of the July 25, 2002 draft of the Proposed Legislation to Affirm Tribal Sovereignty provides for federal review of tribal court decisions with respect to rights under the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968, and the Pueblo Indian Tribes of New Mexico have proposed edits to

exclude from federal review, tribal government actions based on traditional and customary governance practices, and have submitted other edits to the bill draft; and

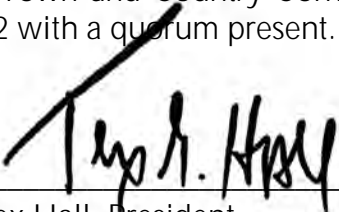
WHEREAS, The Southern Pueblos Council along with their sister council, the Eight Northern Pueblos Council, Inc. have reviewed the July 25, 2002 bill draft and together support amendments to it developed by the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby support such bill draft edits to Section 7 and related edits of the July 25, 2002 draft of the Proposed Legislation to Affirm Tribal Sovereignty, and other edits as developed by the Pueblos of New Mexico; and

BE IT FURTHER 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 2002 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Town and Country Convention Center, in San Diego, California on November 10-15, 2002 with a quorum present.



Tex Hall, President

ATTEST:



Juana Majel, Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during the 2002 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Town and Country Convention Center, in San Diego, California on November 10-15, 2002.