

**The National Congress of American Indians
Resolution #MOH-04-027**



TITLE: To Secure Additional Funding of \$4 million for the Department of Defense (DOD) American Indian Incentive Program

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Jacqueline Johnson
Tlingit

NCAI HEADQUARTERS
1301 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036
202.466.7767
202.466.7797 fax
www.ncai.org

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, American Indian and Alaska Native owned businesses are critical to the economic growth of Indian Country; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the United States to encourage, promote and assist American Indian and Alaska Native economic development goals and objectives; and

WHEREAS, the Congress included a provision in the Department of Defense (DOD) 2003-2004 budget providing for \$8,000,000 for incentive payments to prime contractors who sub-contract with Tribal and Native American businesses; and

WHEREAS, these funds are specifically provided for purposes of expanding business and economic development opportunities for Tribal and Native American owned businesses which historically have been at a competitive disadvantage in participating in DOD contracting opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the DOD has exhausted the Native American incentives funding for the past two years; and

WHEREAS, more funds are urgently needed to fulfill the objectives of this incentives program at this time of great demand by the DOD for goods and services; and

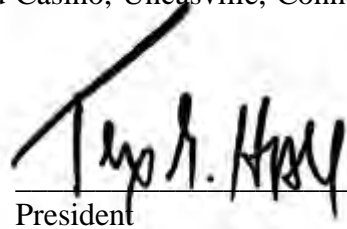
WHEREAS, there is a need for administrative support within DOD to properly manage and direct these incentives funds.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby urge the Congress to increase the Native American Incentives funding for the DOD from \$8,000,000 to \$12,000,000.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the DOD be authorized to utilize up to \$1,000,000 of said funding for administrative costs and to hire at least three Native American professionals to serve as administrative staff within the DOD to ensure that the incentives program is conducted in accordance with the goals and objectives for which the funds are authorized.

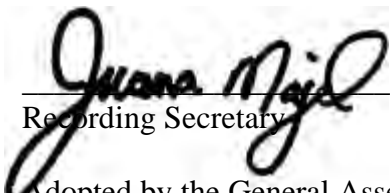
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2004 Mid-Year Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Mohegan Sun Hotel and Casino, Uncasville, Connecticut, on June 23, 2004, with a quorum present.



President

ATTEST:



Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during the 2004 Mid-Year Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Mohegan Sun Hotel and Casino, in Uncasville, Connecticut, on June 23, 2004.