

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #PDX-11-016

**TITLE: Support the Return of Former Attendance Documented “Non-federal”
Boarding School Tribes to Admission at Haskell Indian Nations
University in Lawrence, Kansas**



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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, there currently exist twenty “non-federally recognized” tribes in the United States which had their citizens, over several generations, attended Indian boarding schools such as Haskell, Chilocco, Bacone, Carlisle, Choctaw Central, Cherokee, and Hampton; and

WHEREAS, citizens of these same tribes, even alumni seeking to enroll in additional classes, are no longer allowed admittance to Haskell Indian Nations University; and

WHEREAS, their removal from their own Alma-mater is an issue of historical and cultural revisionism on the part of the Bureau of Indian Affairs; and

WHEREAS, the facts clearly demonstrate attendance of these “non-federally recognized” tribes for over one hundred years at boarding schools administered and funded by the OIA/BIA; and

WHEREAS, the NCAI is tasked with protecting the rights and legacies of all historic tribal communities; and


WHEREAS, the NCAI realizes that the attempt to undermine the histories of over 700 former “non-federally recognized” tribal citizens through disallowing access to Haskell for themselves and their descendants is unethical.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI supports the return of these twenty “non-federally recognized” attendance documented boarding school tribes to their rightful place within the Haskell admissions process on equal standing with members of federally recognized tribes, contingent upon space available after federally recognized students have been served; 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 by the General Assembly at the 2011 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, Oregon on October 30 – November 4, 2011, with a quorum present.



President

ATTEST:



Recording Secretary