



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #TUL-05-004

TITLE: Increase IHS Funding for FY 2006

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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, Alaska Native/American Indian cause of death rates from tuberculosis and alcoholism are more than 6 times the all U.S. All-Races rate; and

WHEREAS, Alaska Native/American Indian cause of death rates from diabetes are 3 times as high as in the rest of the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, Alaska Native/American Indian death rates for unintentional injuries and motor vehicle crashes are 2½ to 3 times higher than the national rates; and

WHEREAS, suicide and homicide rates are nearly twice as high in the Indian population to the general population; and

WHEREAS, in Alaska alone, suicides average 1 every 8 days; and

WHEREAS, tribes and IHS continue to struggle to preserve the basic health care programs that are currently available; and

WHEREAS, a downward trend is rapidly in progress, forcing tribes and the IHS to reduce health services available to IHS beneficiaries due to a continued lack of funding; and

WHEREAS, Congress continues to fund the IHS at the VERY bottom per capita in comparison to other programs such as Medicare; and

WHEREAS, Congress continues to fund the IHS beneficiaries per capita EVEN BELOW FEDERAL PRISONERS IN THE U.S.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby support the request for an increase in IHS funding by 20% for FY 2006; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

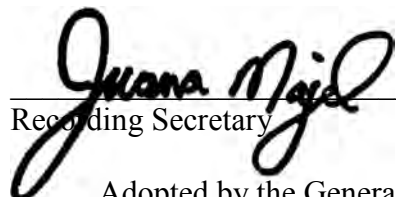
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2005 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the 62nd Annual Convention in Tulsa, Oklahoma on November 4, 2005 with a quorum present.



President

ATTEST:



Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during the 2005 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians held from October 30, 2005 to November 4, 2005 at the Convention Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma.