



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #TUL-05-064

TITLE: In Support of Asking the U.S. Department Of Education to Re-Elevate the Office of Indian Education, and to Follow the Law of This Administration Regarding Consultation with Tribal Governments

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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, the commitment to Indian education was reaffirmed by Executive Order No. 13336, entitled "American Indian and Alaska Native Education," signed in April 2004, which directs the federal agencies to help tribal students and the schools that serve them meet the challenging requirements of the no Child Left Behind Act of 2001 "in a manner consistent with tribal traditions, languages, and cultures;" and

WHEREAS, consultation is required by: 1) Executive Order No. 13175, entitled "Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments,"; 2) the U.S. Department of Education's Consultation and Coordination Process with Indian Tribal Governments; and, 3) Executive Order No. 13336; and

WHEREAS, in October 2005, the Secretary of Education de-elevated by removing the Office of Indian Education from under the Office of the Deputy Secretary, without consultation with Indian tribes and over the objections of NCAI, tribes, and other Indian organizations.

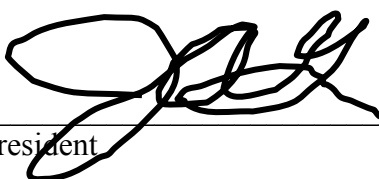
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby request the Department of Education to comply with the law of this Administration regarding consultation with Indian tribes as set forth in Executive Orders and Departmental Policies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby request the Secretary of Education with the assistance of the White House to make Indian education a national priority as required by Executive Order No. 13336, the No Child Left Behind Act, and other treaties and laws of the United States; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

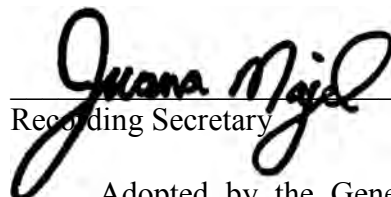
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted 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.