



# NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

## The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #MSP-15-029

### TITLE: Reaffirming Support for Congressional Passage and Enactment into Law of the Indian Trust Asset Reform Act

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**NCAI HEADQUARTERS**  
1516 P Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.466.7767  
202.466.7797 fax  
[www.ncai.org](http://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**, congressional introduction and enactment of a bill that would establish an Indian trust asset demonstration project and restructure the Office of the Special Trustee, and this draft legislation, the *Indian Trust Asset Reform Act*, was introduced in both the House and the Senate as H.R. 409 and S.165 in the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress; and

**WHEREAS**, members of Congress in both parties reintroduced the *Indian Trust Asset Reform Act* in the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress as H.R. 812 and S.383, and the bill has bipartisan support from members of Congress across the U.S.; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 14, 2015, the House Subcommittee on Indian, Insular, and Alaska Native Affairs heard testimony on how H.R. 812 would benefit Indian country and promote self-determination, and the bill was well received; and

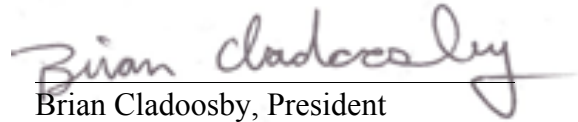
**WHEREAS**, the NCAI and a number of Indian tribal governments from across Indian country have endorsed the Indian Trust Asset Reform Act.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the NCAI supports congressional passage and enactment into law of H.R. 812/S.383, including changes that are necessary to secure passage in both the House and the Senate that are consistent with the scope and purposes of the bill, is and remains a top trust reform priority; 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 2015 Midyear Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the St. Paul River Centre, St. Paul, MN, June 28 to July 1, 2015, with a quorum present.

  
Brian Cladoosby, President

**ATTEST:**

  
Aaron Payment, Recording Secretary