The National Congress of American Indians
Resolution #ANC-14-040

TITLE: Support for Native Language Instruction and Revitalization in Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Act (ESEA)

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, through its unique relationship with Indian Nations and Tribes, the federal government has established programs and resources to meet the educational needs of American Indians, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians, residing on and off their reserved or non-reserved homelands; and

WHEREAS, funds to support Native Language Revitalization efforts from current sources are insufficient; and

WHEREAS, within Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) there are funds devoted to “support the teaching and study of Native American Languages”, (CFDA#84.365C), as well as to increase English language proficiency; and

WHEREAS, existing funds under Title VII of the ESEA are extremely limited; and

WHEREAS, the Western Washington Native American Education Consortium (WWNAEC) supports Native children and families that attend public schools in urban areas; and

WHEREAS, NCAI has always maintained a policy of supporting what is best for Native education.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that NCAI supports WWNAEC recommendation that Native Language Revitalization efforts are also delivered through the Title III Program (CFDA#84.365C), to support the critical needs of Native language revitalization; 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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.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 2014 Mid-Year Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Dena'ina Civic & Convention Center, June 8-11, 2014 in Anchorage, Alaska, with a quorum present.

ATTEST:

Recording Secretary