



# NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

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### RESOLUTION #SPO-01-049

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT  
Tex G. Hall  
*Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara Nation*

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT  
Joe A. Garcia  
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(Pueblo of San Juan)*

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Colleen F. Cawston  
*Colville Confederated Tribes*

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*St. Regis Mohawk Tribe*

**Title: Requesting that the Federal Programs in Support of Indian Education Administered by Both the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the United States Department of Education Be Exempt from the Budget Formulation Instructions to Reduce FY 2003 Budget Amounts by Five (5) Percent from the FY 2002 Requested Level**

**WHEREAS**, we, the members of the National Congress of American Indians in our own distinct territories, 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 Director of the Office of Management and budget (OMB) has directed federal agencies to prepare their FY 2003 budgets with a five (5) percent reduction from the FY 2002 requested levels, while at the same time directing them to provide the President's policy initiatives through offsets from other programs; and

**WHEREAS**, it is clear that improvement of educational opportunity for disadvantaged youth is a major presidential initiative; and

**WHEREAS**, any reduction in funding would result in fewer services being available for American Indian youth in BIA and public school settings.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Jacqueline L. Johnson  
*Tlingit*

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**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the NCAI does hereby request that the federal programs in support of Indian education, administered both by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the United States Department of Education, be exempt from the budget formulation instruction to reduce FY 2003 amounts by five (5) percent from the FY 2002 requested levels; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that NCAI views programs funded by the federal government for American Indian tribes to be a legal and moral obligation that should be exempt from across the board funding reductions and that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

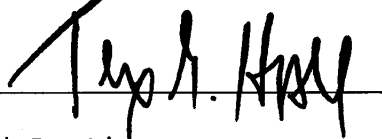
### CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Spokane Convention Center, in Spokane, Washington on November 25-30, 2001 with a quorum present.

ATTEST:


Colleen F. Cawston, Recording Secretary



Tex Hall, President

Adopted by the General Assembly during the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Spokane Convention Center, in Spokane, Washington on November 25-30, 2001.