

**THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF
AMERICAN INDIANS**

RESOLUTION #SPO-01-056

**Title: Support for Funding for the American Indian Museums Program
(AIMP)**

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, Congress in 1989 recognized the physical condition of our nation's tribal museums and included in legislation authorization for appropriations establishing a Tribal Museum Endowment Fund; and

WHEREAS, since 1989, the Section 15 funds for the Tribal Museum Endowment Fund have never been appropriated; and

WHEREAS, NCAI supports \$10 million in the FY2003 Labor, Health and Human Services and Education appropriations process to establish a Tribal Museum Endowment Fund; and

WHEREAS, funding through the endowment would assist tribal museums, libraries, and cultural centers defray the costs of renovation and repair for tribal museum facilities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby support FY2003 funding in Labor, HHS, and Education appropriations for Tribal Museum Endowment Fund; 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BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.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 58th 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.

Tex Hall, President

ATTEST:

Colleen Cawston, Recording Secretary

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