

**THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF
AMERICAN INDIANS**

RESOLUTION #SPO-01-060

Title: Internet Gambling

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 Supreme Court and Congress recognize that Tribal governments retain the inherent authority to conduct gaming operations to generate governmental revenue and strive for economic self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress enacted the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) to promote tribal economic development and self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, in the First Session of the 107th Congress, Congressmen Leach and Goodlatte introduced legislation that would limit the ability of Tribal governments to participate in Internet gaming as a means of generating governmental revenue; and

WHEREAS, these bills permit State governments the option of legalizing Internet gaming within their jurisdictions, and would permit commercial gaming operations to obtain license from State governments to engage in Internet gaming; and

WHEREAS, Congress made clear that tribes be given the opportunity to take advantage of modern methods of technology.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby urge Congress to provide Indian tribes with a fair and equitable opportunity to engage in Internet gaming; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that NCAI will oppose any legislation that limits the ability of Indian tribes to engage in Internet gaming while permitting States and commercial gaming interests to engage in Internet gaming.

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.