

**THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF
AMERICAN INDIANS**

RESOLUTION #SPO-01-062

Title: State of Idaho American Indian Language Teacher Certification

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 teaching of American Indian languages are essential to the proper education of American Indian Children; and

WHEREAS, the state of Idaho does not offer teacher certification for American Indian Language teachers; and

WHEREAS, each Indian Tribe in Idaho may develop a written and oral test which must be successfully completed prior to being certified as an American Indian Languages teacher; and

WHEREAS, obtaining an American Indian Language Teaching Certificate will enable qualified elders and other tribal members to accept a teaching position in any school district, community college, state, local, or tribal institution of higher education teaching Indian languages.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby support working with the Indian Tribes located in the State of Idaho and the Idaho Legislature to pass an American Indian Languages Teaching Certification Bill and endorses such legislation.

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.