

**THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF  
AMERICAN INDIANS**

**RESOLUTION #SPO-01-072**

**Title: Support for the Indian Health Care Improvement Act  
Reauthorization (P.L. 94-437)**

**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 Indian Health Service is the federal agency with the responsibility to fund Indian health programs operated by Tribes and by the Indian Health Service (IHS) but has insufficient funds to meet the health care needs of Indian people; and

**WHEREAS**, the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (Public Law 94-437) is the fundamental authorizing legislation for Indian Health Programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislation developed by the National Steering Committee on Reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act was incorporated into House Bill H.R. 1662 and Senate Bill S.212; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB), and the California Rural Indian Health Board (CRIHB) have participated in the National Steering Committee on Reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the NCAI does hereby support the work

of the National Steering Committee on Reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act;  
and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the NCAI does hereby recommend by this resolution that the National Steering Committee review Title IV of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to determine which provisions will be most difficult to pass due to costs or assignment to multiple committees and for possible assignment to a separate bill, excluding that portion that exempts AI/AN from estate recovery.

**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.

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Tex Hall, President

**ATTEST:**

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Colleen Cawston, Recording Secretary

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.