

**THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF
AMERICAN INDIANS**

RESOLUTION #SPO-01-079

Title: Honoring Sacred Sites

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, Native people have since time immemorial lived in harmony with the natural cycles of mother earth; and

WHEREAS, the tradition and culture of Native Peoples include strong spiritual values and honoring of sacred sites for purposes in maintaining our way of life; and

WHEREAS, many of these sacred sites have been desecrated, destroyed or native people have been denied access; and

WHEREAS, NCAI recognizes the need for global healing and world prayer.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby join with the NCAI NAGPRA Commission Work Group, the Nez Perce Tribe and other tribes, villages and native people worldwide in recognizing June 21, 2002 as World Peace and Prayer Day; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI recognizes and supports the importance of our spiritual healing in the honoring and protection of our sacred sites as Native people; 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withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.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.