

**THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF
AMERICAN INDIANS**

RESOLUTION #SPO-01-087

**Title: Support Federal Legislation Calling for Recognition of the
Hawaiian Nation and Return of Land to the Hawaiian Nation**

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 federal policy affords all Native Americans and Alaska Natives the right to be self-governing within a defined land base; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for self-government; and

WHEREAS, NCAI at its 56th annual session adopted Resolution #99-042 and at its 57th annual session adopted Resolution #00-032 which supports the sovereign rights of native Hawaiians and recognizes the need to develop a true government-to-government relationship with the Hawaiian nation; and

WHEREAS, NCAI also adopted the same resolution that the Hawaiian Nation's goal is federal recognition as a sovereign indigenous national with inherent rights to self-determination and self-governance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby support federal legislation calling for recognition of the Hawaiian nation, a self-determined entity created by and for native Hawaiians and their descendants in furtherance of a true government-to-government relationship; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI further supports the return of land to the

Hawaiian Nation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution; and that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Hawaii state legislature, the Hawaii congressional delegation, the 107th Congress of the United States of America, Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Attorney General of the United States, Secretary of State and the President of the United States; 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.