



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

RESOLUTION #MSH-01-022

Title: To support the Hoopa Valley Tribe's Position in the Matter of Roberta Bugenig vs. Hoopa Valley Tribe, Before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Case No. 99-196454.

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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 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, largest, and most representative national American Indian and Alaska Native tribal government organization; and

WHEREAS, the Hoopa Valley Tribe is a federally recognized Tribe occupying the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation; and

WHEREAS, the Hoopa Valley Tribe has performed the White Deerskin Dance ceremony for thousands of years which the ceremony culminates at Noltukalia "among the oak tops" on Bald Hill within the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation in order to cleanse the people of wrong feelings and place the world in balance; and

WHEREAS, after a lengthy and open process the Hoopa Valley Tribe adopted an Ordinance as part of their Forest Management Plan which created a no cut (no timber harvesting) buffer zone around any ceremonial site within the exterior boundaries of the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation; and

WHEREAS, Roberta Bugenig purchased fee lands within the previously established no cut buffer zone, within the exterior boundaries of the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation and proceeded to log the property she purchased in violation of tribal law.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that NCAI does hereby support the Hoopa Valley Tribe's position to preserve and protect cultural religious sites within the Exterior boundaries of the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation by Ordinance binding all lands including fee lands within the exterior boundaries of the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation, and respectfully requests the National Congress of American Indians to show support of the Hoopa Valley Tribe in the Federal Court case of Robert Bugenig vs. Hoopa Valley Tribe, Hoopa Valley Tribal Council et al., Ninth Circuit Case No. 99-196454; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that NCAI does hereby support this resolution the Hoopa Valley Tribe's in their position to preserve and protect cultural religious sites within the Exterior boundaries of the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation and to show support of the Hoopa Valley Tribe in the Federal Court case of Robert Bugenig vs. Hoopa Valley Tribe, Hoopa Valley Tribal Council et al., Ninth Circuit Case No. 99-196454.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2001 Mid-Year Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at Foxwoods Resort Casino in Mashantucket, Connecticut on May 13-16, 2001, with a quorum present.



Susan Masten, President

ATTEST:



Juana Mair, Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during the 2001 Mid-Year Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held in Mashantucket, Connecticut on May 13-16, 2001.