

**THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF
AMERICAN INDIANS**

RESOLUTION #MSH-01-032

**Title: That NCAI Establish a Task Force on Violence and Sexual
Assault Against American Indian/Alaska Native Women
Under Its Human Resources Committee**

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 Aberdeen Area Tribal Chairmen's Health Board respects and honors Native Women as life and care givers of nations; and

WHEREAS, the Aberdeen Area Tribal Chairmen's Health Board recognizes that there has been a significant breakdown of this value of respect and honor for native women resulting in high rates of violence and sexual assault toward native women; and

WHEREAS, the Aberdeen Area Tribal Chairmen's Health Board recognizes its responsibility to be proactive in defense and advocacy of native women and support activities to eliminate and prevent violence against native women; and

WHEREAS, the Aberdeen Area Tribal Chairmen's Health Board has supported this concept by passing resolution number 2001-09; and

WHEREAS, the NCAI has previously passed a resolution number STP-00-081 in St. Paul, MN opposing violence against women.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that NCAI does hereby support the creation of a task force on Violence and Sexual Assault Against American Indian and Alaska Native Women with opportunity for inclusion on the NCAI agenda within the General Assembly and during breakout sessions on matters related to violence against women; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this Task Force be given assistance in support of securing resources to provide tribal leaders a comprehensive report and recommendations to address violence and sexual assault against native women.

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 Majel, 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.