



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

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RESOLUTION #MSH-01-054

Title: Support for the Formation of the National Indian Education Association American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Consortium of Tribal Students in Higher Education

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, American Indian and Alaskan Native students in institutions of higher learning need leadership experience to prepare them for leadership roles; and

WHEREAS, tribal students in institutions of higher learning can serve as catalysts in creating a more conducive environment on their respective campuses; and

WHEREAS, tribal students in institutions of higher learning often serve as the conduit to tribal communities and communicate their educational needs to these communities; and

WHEREAS, tribal students in institutions of higher learning should be provided the opportunity for interaction and communication with their fellow tribal students on a national level; and

WHEREAS, tribal students in institutions of higher education often face isolation and adverse circumstances on their respective campuses; and

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WHEREAS, the National Indian Education Association is forming an American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian consortium of tribal students in higher education as a student caucus of NIEA; and

WHEREAS, tribal students on a national level need to create an advocacy force to protect their unique needs and tribal programs; and

WHEREAS, NCAI recognizes the importance of tribal participation for success in initiatives of higher learning; and

WHEREAS, NCAI, through a memorandum of agreement, supports the institutions of the National Indian Education Association; and

WHEREAS, the successful future of member tribes of NCAI is contingent on their ability to value and encourage the enrollment of tribal students in institutions of higher learning.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that NCAI does hereby support the formation of the National Indian Education Association American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Consortium of Tribal Students in Higher Education; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that NCAI does hereby support this resolution and encourages tribal students from tribally controlled colleges and non-Indian Universities and Community Colleges to participate in this consortium.

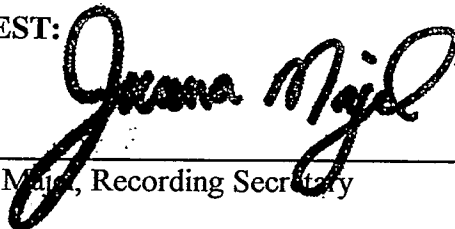
CERTIFICATION

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 Masten, 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.