

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

RESOLUTION #MSH-01-067

Title: To Support and Recognize National Indian Advisory Board on Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention & Treatment (Amendment to STP-00-027)

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, NCAI recognizes alcohol and substance abuse use, misuse, and abuse as a fact that is more than a health problem, but is also a serious social, education, law enforcement, tribal justice, domestic violence, and economic problem; and,

WHEREAS, it is known that American Indians and Alaska Natives are suffering from devastating effects of alcohol abuse, substance abuse, and domestic violence in their communities, which undermines the sustainability of their spirituality, cultures, languages, family and community cohesiveness; and

WHEREAS, in some instances, it is estimated that 98% of the child abuse and neglect cases are related to alcohol and substance abuse; and

WHEREAS, the 1999 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse shows a major decrease of alcohol and substance abuse among the general population but an increase in prevalence among the Native American population, constituting a major threat to the future of Indian youth; and

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WHEREAS, P.L. 99-570 was established for the purpose of addressing the need for policy and resource coordination in alcohol and substance abuse prevention and treatment through Tribal Action Plans; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of Interior has neglected to include funding in the President's budget request to adequately support grants directly to tribes and implement tribal action plans.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that NCAI does hereby support the intent of P.L. 99-570 to fully endorse the mission of the National Indian Advisory Board on Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP) and Treatment Task Force and will support tribes in finding solutions designed to end the epidemic of alcohol and drug abuse that occurs in Indian Country; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI does hereby request the Secretary of Indian Affairs to secure special appropriations of no less than \$500,000 for the Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment to be used in support for continual funding for the NCAI National Indian Advisory Board, Tribal Summits, and National Youth conference beginning in FY 2002; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the National Indian Advisory Board for Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment be comprised of Tribal Leaders and/or their designee from each Region and approved by Resolution from their federally-recognized tribe.

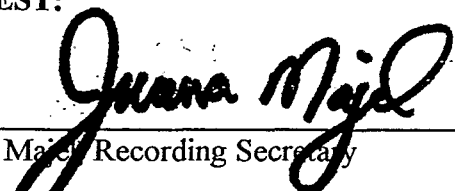
CERTIFICATION

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 Maje, 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.