



# NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

## THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

### RESOLUTION #MSH-01-068

#### **Title: FY2003 Budget Increase for the Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention & Treatment Program**

**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 family and communities; and

**WHEREAS**, in some instances, it is estimated that 98% of the child abuse, neglect cases and domestic violence 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 Native American population, thus a major threat to the future of Indian children and youth; and

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WHEREAS, the Secretary of Interior has neglected to include in the President's budget request funding to adequately support grants directly to tribes and to implement Tribal Action Plans;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that NCAI does hereby request the Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs to secure funding increase from \$397,000 to \$15,500,000 for the Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment to be used for direct funding to Tribes to assist them in development and implementation of-through Tribal Actions Plans-Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment strategies, and technical assistance support for Tribes beginning in FY 2003.

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:

  
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Juana Major, 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.