



# NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

## The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #DEN-07-039

### **TITLE: Request Full Hearings on the Incidence of Sex Offenses and the Medical Response to These Crimes Committed Against Native Women**

**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 health, safety and 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 and largest national organization of American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Department of Justice reports that more 1 in 3 (34%) of American Indian and Alaska Native women will be raped in her lifetime; and

**WHEREAS**, about 9 in 10 American Indian victims of rape or sexual assault were estimated to have been assailants who were of another race; and

**WHEREAS**, there is no accurate medical data that can provide us with a clear understanding of the medical needs of native women; and

**WHEREAS**, the incidence of sex crimes committed against native women often go unreported to law enforcement; and

**WHEREAS**, native women often do not seek medical attention when they have been victimized by the violent crimes of rape, sexual assault, sexual abuse, etc.; and

**WHEREAS**, native women often do not seek therapy to help them cope with the sexual violence committed against their mind, heart, body and spirit; and

**WHEREAS**, there is no model to provide therapy for women who have been raped; and

**WHEREAS**, native women do not seek law enforcement intervention, medical attention and therapeutic services due to the perception that there is no adequate response to protect them in the areas of public safety, public health and therapy to meet their needs.

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**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the NCAI does hereby request that the United States Congress conduct full hearings on meeting the needs of tribal nations to adequately respond to the incidence of violent sex crimes and the medical and therapeutic attention required by native women; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the NCAI does hereby call for these hearings to be conducted as soon a possible; and

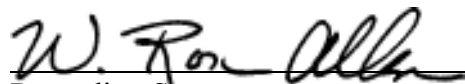
**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution; and this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until the aforementioned proposal is conducted.

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the General Assembly at the 2007 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Hyatt Regency Denver at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver, Colorado on November 11-16, 2007, with a quorum present.

  
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President

**ATTEST:**

  
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Recording Secretary