



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #PHX-08-039

TITLE: Oppose SAMHSA Matching Fund Requirements

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, many tribes, communities and schools are located in economically and socially isolated communities which face challenges in addressing the diverse issues associated with alcohol, drug and mental health that require fiscally sound resources to support the health, social and spiritual needs of our tribal people; and

WHEREAS, in FY 2009, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) plans to require matching funds for discretionary grant funding opportunities within the Programs of Regional and National Significance as described in the President's FY 2009 Budget Request; and

WHEREAS, the historical, complex, and sensitive nature of substance abuse and mental health issues among tribes, families and children are best addressed through tribally and culturally responsive prevention and intervention programs; and

WHEREAS, many tribes do not have the additional resources available to meet the matching fund requirement making them unable to apply for the much needed program assistance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby oppose the match requirement for discretionary grant opportunities under SAMHSA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

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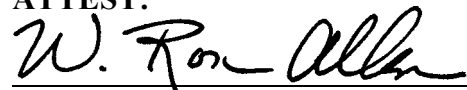
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the General Assembly at the 2008 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Phoenix Convention Center in Phoenix, Arizona on October 19-24, 2008, with a quorum present.



President

ATTEST:



Recording Secretary