



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #MKE-11-017

TITLE: Direct Funding for Tribal Weatherization Programs

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 national and regional energy industry presents opportunities for Indian tribes in new revenue and job creation; and

WHEREAS, many tribes are in the process of developing new tribal weatherization programs with funds from the ARRA Department of Energy (DOE) "Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants" (EECBG); and

WHEREAS, after this one time allocation under ARRA, tribes have encountered barriers to weatherization program development due to the fact that DOE EECBG funds are directed through the States.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI hereby urges the DOE to amend the State Energy Program authorization (42 USC 6321-6327) to include a set-aside for tribal governments and authorize distribution of funding allocated to tribes through the EECBG program authorized by the 2007 Energy Independence and Security Act (42 USC 17151 -17158); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI supports the DOE revision of weatherization regulations to enable: 1) Tribes the ability to apply directly for weatherization program funds without the burden of proof; 2) funds can be utilized to build tribal internal capacity for sustainable energy efficiency programs and; 3) tribal governments and tribally owned businesses will have the same ability to receive technical assistance and training for tribal weatherization program development; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

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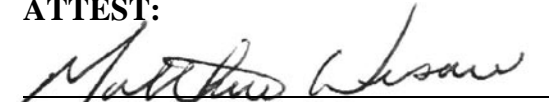
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CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the General Assembly at the 2011 Mid-Year Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Frontier Airlines Center in Milwaukee, WI on June 13-16, 2011, with a quorum present.



President**ATTEST:**

Recording Secretary