



# NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

## The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #PHX-16-031

### **TITLE: Support for Prompt Inclusive Implementation and Consultation of the “Every Student Succeeds Act”, P.L. 114-95**

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**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**, in late 2015, Congress enacted a reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) entitled Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) that includes Title VI which benefits education and advancement of American Indian and Alaska Native students in grades K-12; known formally as P.L. 114-95; and

**WHEREAS**, among other things, ESSA requires each state education department to develop an educational plan for state students, holding such plans to high academic standards, with provisions that enhance consultation requirements for development of state plans with Indian tribes within the state; and

**WHEREAS**, it is critical that tribes consult with the states regarding the development and implementation of state education plans to ensure that the needs of Indian students in state systems are adequately met; and

**WHEREAS**, Tribes can receive grants under Title VI for tribal educational systems, and should be able to take advantage of funding under ESSA for such things as immersion schools and assistance with prevention of youth suicides, among other important components.

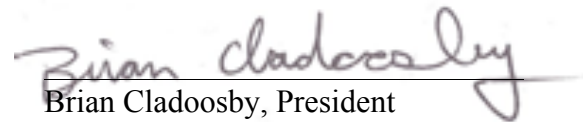
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the National Congress of American Indians calls upon states to respect the sovereignty of tribes and work in a government to government manner with tribes in the development of the state educational plans for K-12 students; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the NCAI calls upon all Tribes to fully participate in the development of the state educational plans for K-12 students, and further, that tribes take full advantage of the resources that should be available to tribes under Title VI and other titles of ESSA; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

### CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the General Assembly at the 2016 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Phoenix Convention Center, October 9<sup>th</sup>- 14<sup>th</sup> 2016, with a quorum present.

  
Brian Cladoosby, President

**ATTEST:**

  
Aaron Payment, Recording Secretary