



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #DEN-18-052

TITLE: Requesting the Department of the Interior Extend the Deadline for the Cobell Land Buy Back Program

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT
Jefferson Keel
Chickasaw Nation

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
Aaron Payment
*Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa
Indians of Michigan*

RECORDING SECRETARY
Juana Majel-Dixon
Pauma Band Mission Indians

TREASURER
W. Ron Allen
Jamestown S'Kallam Tribe

REGIONAL VICE- PRESIDENTS

ALASKA
Rob Sanderson, Jr.
*Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of
Alaska*

EASTERN OKLAHOMA
Joe Byrd
Cherokee Nation

GREAT PLAINS
Larry Wright, Jr.
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska

MIDWEST
Roger Rader
Pokagon Band of Potawatomi

NORTHEAST
Lance Gumbs
Shinnecock Indian Nation

NORTHWEST
Leonard Forsman
Suquamish Tribe

PACIFIC
Willie Carrillo
Tule River Tribe of California

ROCKY MOUNTAIN
Darrin Old Coyote
Crow Nation

SOUTHEAST
Nancy Carnley
Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indians

SOUTHERN PLAINS
Zach Pahmahmie
Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation

SOUTHWEST
Joe Garcia
Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo

WESTERN
Franklin Pablo, Sr.
Gila River Indian Community

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Jacqueline Pata
Tlingit

NCAI HEADQUARTERS

1516 P Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005
202.466.7767
202.466.7797 fax
www.ncai.org

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 and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 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, there are tribal nations nationally who were unable to meet the July 27th, 2017 deadline required by the Cobell/Department of the Interior (DOI) Land Buy Back Program (LBBP) due to unforeseen circumstances, such as Constitutional revisions, lack of resources, or other matters, and would still like to be fully involved in the LBBP; and

WHEREAS, these tribal nations will be severely impacted by an inability to grow their trust lands in a cohesive way which benefits the health of their tribal citizens; and

WHEREAS, Cobell/DOI LBBP helps address the problem of fractionated interest of tribal lands and in doing so restores greater regulatory authority to tribes over lands within their jurisdiction; and

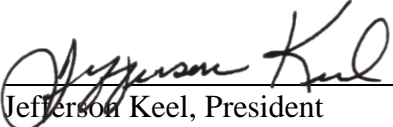
WHEREAS, Cobell/DOI LBBP needs to assess its progress with its current schedule and revise its schedule to add locations for interested tribal nations that have demonstrated readiness and are not on the current schedule.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) supports a deadline extension of the Cobell/Department of the Interior Land Buy Back Program for impacted tribal nations; and

BE IT FURTHER 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 2018 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Hyatt Regency in Denver, Colorado October 21-26, 2018, with a quorum present.



Jefferson Keel, President

ATTEST:



Juana Majel Dixon, Recording Secretary