



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #LNK-12-019

TITLE: Supporting Department of Energy Alternative Fuel Funds to Support Compressed Natural Gas

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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, the Department of Energy has promoted the use of electric vehicles and has made significant progress in making available the necessary infrastructure for electric vehicles; and

WHEREAS, Tribal lands are generally located in rural areas where electric vehicles are impractical; and

WHEREAS, Tribal transits have found electric vehicles for their bus fleets to be impractical now and in the foreseeable future and a cleaner less expensive option than gas or diesel is imperative; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Energy has distributed alternative fuel funds to Clean Cities Coalitions nationwide but have not supported awarding grants for compressed natural gas infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) is a cleaner fuel, typically half the cost of diesel fuel, domestically available (with over a 100 year proven supply), providing the horsepower of gasoline and, as recent testing has shown, with better fuel economy than any other fuel.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that NCAI does hereby encourage the U.S. Department of Energy to make CNG grants available for CNG in rural areas; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI strongly encourages all Clean Cities Coalitions to make grants available for Compressed Natural Gas infrastructure and vehicle conversion kits to serve Indian Country; 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 2012 Mid-Year Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at The Cornhusker Hotel from June 17-20, 2012 in Lincoln, Nebraska, with a quorum present.


President

ATTEST:


Recording Secretary