

TRIBAL INTERIOR BUDGET COUNCIL RESOLUTION

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Craig Tribal Association

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Title: Include the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (ICPFVPA) in the *Tiwahe* Initiative and Fund the Programs Authorized to the Fullest Extent

WHEREAS, the Tribal Interior Budget Council (TIBC) was created to provide a forum and process, consistent with the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, Section 450 (a)1 and Executive Order 13175 and Department of the Interior's (DOI) Government to Government policy, whereby Tribes and the Department work together to develop policy and budgets that provide for 1) the DOI to fulfill its Trust responsibilities and Treaty obligations; and 2) the fulfillment of Tribes' inherent sovereign rights of self-determination, self-governance, and self-sufficiency, as well as securing levels of funding necessary to strengthen Tribal governmental capacity to serve their Tribal citizens and communities; and

WHEREAS, the Snyder Act, 25 U.S.C. Section 13, and many other sections of law codify the obligations to American Indians, including the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, 25 U.S.C. Sections 450 et seq. and the Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975, and authorize Congress to appropriate funds to fulfill the fundamental trust responsibilities of the United States, and such acts do not have limitations within them; and

WHEREAS, these trust obligations of the United States to the Tribal Nations within its boundaries include, but are not limited to, providing health care, education, housing, social welfare, law and order, transportation, responsibility for trust lands, and many other services; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect are serious and persistent problems in American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the impact of child maltreatment in many AI/AN communities has been devastating. It has disrupted extended family support networks and broken up families through placements outside the community; and

WHEREAS, there is an incredible need for child abuse and neglect prevention and treatment programs in AI/AN communities; and

WHEREAS, tribes do not have access to the Department of Health and Human Services, Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act Basic Grant Program and do not have access to the Social Security Block Grant ("Title XX") the two key federal child abuse prevention and treatment funding sources; and

WHEREAS, in 1991, Congress enacted the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (ICPFVPA; Pub. L. No. 101-630) which authorizes funding for two tribal programs: (1) the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Program, which funds prevention programming as well as investigation and emergency shelter services for victims of child abuse and family violence (\$30 million); and (2) the Treatment of Victims of Child Abuse and Neglect program, which funds treatment programs for victims of child abuse (\$10 million). ICPFVPA also authorizes funding to create Indian Child Resource and Family Service Centers at each of the BIA regional offices (\$3 million); and

WHEREAS, the grant programs authorized under ICPFVPA have never been appropriated funding and the BIA Indian Child Resources and Family Service Centers have never been created; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, the President and the Department of Interior introduced the *Tiwahe* (Family) Initiative which promotes a comprehensive and integrated approach to supporting family stability and strengthening tribal communities by addressing interrelated issues associated with child welfare, domestic violence, substance abuse, poverty, and incarceration by increasing targeted funding programs within the Bureau of Indian Affairs; and

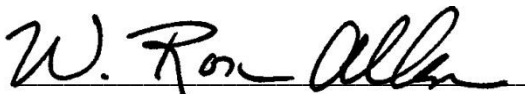
WHEREAS, the grant programs authorized under ICPFVPA and the BIA Indian Child Resources and Family Service Centers have not been included in the *Tiwahe* Initiative; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the leaders of the Tribal Nations attending the TIBC meeting in Washington, D.C., on March 5, 2015, that to fulfill its purpose the *Tiwahe* Initiative must include the ICPFVPA grant programs and the BIA Indian Child Resources and Family Service Centers put forward in this law; and

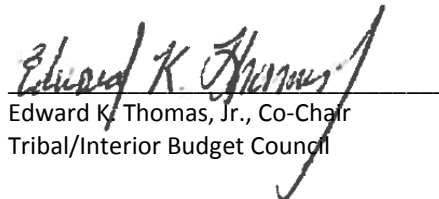
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the leaders of the Tribal Nations attending the TIBC meeting in Washington, D.C. call upon the Administration, the Secretary of Interior, and Congress to take steps to fund the grant programs under ICPFVPA to the fullest extent and create BIA Indian Child Resources and Family Service Centers in accordance with this law and the *Tiwahe* Initiative.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution came before the Tribal leader caucus attending the Tribal Interior Budget Council in Washington, D.C. on March 5, 2015 and was passed unanimously.



W. Ron Allen, Co-Chair
Tribal/Interior Budget Council



Edward K. Thomas, Jr., Co-Chair
Tribal/Interior Budget Council