



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #DEN-07-037

TITLE: Support for Congressional Removal of Local Match Requirements for Federal Contracts/Grants

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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, from its earliest days, the United States has recognized the sovereign status of Indian tribal governments as set forth in the Constitution of the United States, Executive Orders, and court decisions; and

WHEREAS, since the formation of the Union and in the subsequent early Indian treaties, the United States has recognized the sovereign status of Indian tribes as domestic dependent nations under its protection; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government has enacted numerous statutes and promulgated numerous regulations that establish and define the trust relationship with Indian tribes; and

WHEREAS, these fundamental principles guide the Federal Government policymaking in the promulgation of Federal statutes and implementation of Federal funding streams; and

WHEREAS, numerous and varied Federal statutes containing grant funds are available for Tribal governments to enhance essential governmental services, and to provide direct services, resources and/or infrastructure of their tribes; and

WHEREAS, these numerous and varied Federal funding sources require local matching dollars that imposes direct compliance costs on Indian tribal governments; and

WHEREAS, the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA) contains a provision allowing Tribal Governments to use ISDEAA funds to meet the match requirements of federal grant programs; and

WHEREAS, the requirement of local matching dollars has a direct, detrimental impact on many tribes ability to provide for the welfare and safety of Indian tribes, thus, impeding their ability to apply for available Federal grant funds; and

WHEREAS, Tribal governments need resources to provide essential governmental services, direct services, and/ or infrastructure for the benefit and welfare of Indian tribes.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby support United States Congressional legislation that eliminates all local match requirements in Federal statutes and funding streams for which Indian Tribal Governments and tribal organizations are eligible to apply; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution; and this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until the aforementioned proposal is affirmatively acted upon by the US Congress.

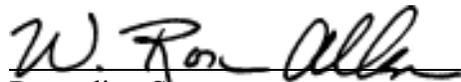
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the General Assembly at the 2007 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Hyatt Regency Denver at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver, Colorado on November 11-16, 2007, with a quorum present.



President

ATTEST:



Recording Secretary