



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #ABQ-10-NICOA2010-006

TITLE: Increase appropriation of Older Americans Act Title VI funds based on population and workload.

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 United States Federal Register lists 562 federally recognized tribal entities and as such, Tribal Organizations are eligible to receive funding and services by virtue of their status as AI/AN entities; and

WHEREAS, the 2000 United States Census has the total number of AI/AN individuals at 2,416,410, and there are 560,107 AI/AN age 55 years and older; and

WHEREAS, The Older Americans Acts specifically states “it is the purpose of this Title to promote the delivery of supportive services, including nutrition services, to AI/ANs, and Native Hawaiians that are comparable to services provided under Title III (grants for state and community programs on aging). The provision of “comparable services,” however, has not been achievable due to insufficient funds for this entitlement; and

WHEREAS, in Fiscal Year 2010, \$36.33 million was allocated to AI/AN communities from the Older Americans Act, Title VI programs; and

WHEREAS, approximately 2/3 of the grants to Indian Tribes or consortia of tribes are for less than \$100,000. This funding level is expected to provide services for a minimum of 50 elders for an entire year. Those tribes receiving \$100,000 serve between 200-300 elders. Many tribes are not able to meet the five day a week meal requirement because of insufficient funding and are serving congregate meals only two or three days per week.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Administration on Aging increase appropriation of funding for Title VI of the Older American Act based on the number of eligible AI/AN in each of the designated service areas; and

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Jacqueline Johnson Pata
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NCAI HEADQUARTERS

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution is policy of NICOA until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the General Assembly at the 2010 Annual Convention of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Albuquerque Convention Center in Albuquerque, NM on November 14-19, 2010, with a quorum present.

President

ATTEST:

Recording Secretary