



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #SAC-06-###

TITLE: ADDRESSING THE DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE AND OTHER DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES

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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 safe disposal of solid waste, chemicals, nuclear waste, and other dangerous substances is a growing problem in the United States; and failures in the design and management of sanitary landfills or nuclear waste storage facilities can result in tragic environmental damages and can result in severe and sometimes permanent damage to delicate ecosystems.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that NCAI does hereby support the proposition that national and international transport of solid waste and other dangerous substances for disposal be banned by both state and federal law, thereby lessening the potential for damage to the environment of the United States and minimizing the use of our valuable land resource, in the hope that one day soon, a more economically viable and environmentally friendly method of disposal will be developed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI does hereby strongly urge Congress and the President that the federal and state governments utilize any available funding, such as SuperFund monies, to clean up damaged areas affected by previous improper waste disposal. NCAI does not encourage incineration or kiln burning of waste as a means of disposal because of the air pollution and toxic substances emitted through that process.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the General Assembly at the 2006 63rd Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Sacramento Convention Center in Sacramento, California on October 1-6, 2006 with a quorum present.

President

ATTEST:

Recording Secretary