



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

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

**TITLE: DOCUMENTATION PROVING US CITIZENSHIP FOR
FEDERAL PROGRAMS**

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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 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has put forth a regulation that Certificate Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) and/or Tribal Enrollment cards are not accepted documentation to prove US citizenship when accessing Medicare and Medicaid benefits.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that NCAI requests that CMS immediately change its regulations to accept Certificate Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) and/or Tribal Enrollment documentation as proof of US citizenship to allow American Indian and Alaska Native Elders, many of whom do not have birth certificates, access to Medicare and Medicaid benefits.

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.

ATTEST:

President

Recording Secretary

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