



National  
Caucus of  
Native  
American  
State  
Legislators

c/o National Conference  
of State Legislatures

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## NATIONAL CAUCUS OF NATIVE AMERICAN STATE LEGISLATORS

### RESOLUTION SUPPORTING STATE EFFORTS TO EMPOWER NATIVE AMERICAN CITIZENS

The National Caucus of Native American State Legislators (NCNASL) is made up of American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian State Legislators from 18 states and is organized to provide a forum for discussion, education and increased communication. Additionally, the NCNASL identifies and proposes legislation and administrative actions to eliminate barriers to achievement of a better quality of life for Native people.

**WHEREAS** the accurate accounting of American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian populations is of utmost concern to this organization, and

**WHEREAS** evidence points to an overall growth in the American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian populations nationally, as well as in many of the states represented in this organization, and

**WHEREAS** the U.S. Census Bureau reports in the 2000 Census that there were 4,993,715 American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian citizens alone and in combination with other races, and

**WHEREAS** the U.S. Census Bureau reports in the 2010 Census that there are now 6,445,774 American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian citizens alone and in combination with other races, and

**WHEREAS** this represents a steady and significant increase and growth rate in the number of citizens claiming their American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian heritage, and

**WHEREAS**, there are many states grappling with issues regarding their citizens who are American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian, and

**WHEREAS** this organization seeks to serve as a resource for states on issues related to American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian people and their concerns.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE NATIONAL CAUCUS OF NATIVE AMERICAN STATE LEGISLATORS THAT WE:**

- Support states in their efforts to give voice to the American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian population in their states, and
- Pledge to serve as a resource for states and for state governments as they engage Native citizens and Native issues within their borders, and
- Urge states and state legislatures to not be pressured by entities, organizations and tribal groups from outside their boundaries to take actions that are against the interests of the citizens of their states, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the National Caucus of Native American State Legislators urges states and state legislatures to lay a framework for consultation with appropriate Native American, governmental and other appropriate interest groups.

**Sponsored by:** Representative Reginald Meeks (KY)

**Approved date is:** August 3, 2011

**Committee of Jurisdiction:** Education

**Certified by Committee Chair:** Representative Reginald Meeks

**Certified by Caucus Chair:** Representative John McCoy

**Ratified certified by:** The NCNASL, August 3, 2011

**Distribution List:** The President  
Members of Congress  
Other federal and state government officials as appropriate