

# NATIONAL CAUCUS OF NATIVE AMERICAN STATE LEGISLATORS

## RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE 2010 CENSUS

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 National Caucus of Native American State Legislators recognizes the great importance of the 2010 Census not only to our nation but specifically for the American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian people who live in the United States both in Indian Country as well as in our cities; and

**WHEREAS** the data compiled from the U.S. Census helps with the allocation of more than \$300 billion in federal funds to our states and tribes including funds for health care, schools, labor, social services such as community development block grant programs, highway planning and construction, Title I funding of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, special education, vocational education, special programs for aging, food programs, child care, foster care, head start, low income energy, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and other grant resources that American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiians will benefit from; and

**WHEREAS** the 2010 Census will be used in the redistricting efforts to determine the number of Congressional seats our states will have in Congress and in determining the composition and boundaries of our legislative districts in our respective states; and

**WHEREAS** in the redistricting process it is vital to have an accurate count of American Indians, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians to insure the opportunity to be fairly represented in their respective political communities; and

**WHEREAS** the U.S. Census will hire hundreds of thousands of people nationwide as Census workers; now, therefore

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE NATIONAL CAUCUS OF NATIVE AMERICAN STATE LEGISLATORS** that the inherent sovereignty of Tribes as recognized through historical treaties and legal relationships that exist between Tribal Nations and the United States of America is undeniable; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the National Caucus of Native American State Legislators supports a complete and accurate count of American Indians, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians in the 2010 Census who live both on and off reservation lands; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the National Caucus of Native American State Legislators supports the U.S. Census Bureau, our Congressional Delegations, and our

respective state census offices to ensure an accurate and full count of American Indians, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the National Caucus of Native American State Legislators supports partnerships between our respective tribal and native communities and the U.S. Census to ensure employment opportunities for our local people as well as activities that will help our respective American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian communities be counted both on and off reservation lands.

**Sponsored by:** Sen. Carol Juneau (MT) Education Committee Chair

**Approved date is:** September 25, 2009

**Committee of Jurisdiction:** Education

**Certified by Committee Chair:** Sen. Carol Juneau (MT)

**Certified by Caucus Chair:** Rep. John McCoy (WA)

**Ratified certified by:** The NCNASL, September 25, 2009

**Distribution List:** **National Congress of American Indians**  
**Members of Congress**  
**Administration**  
**Secretary of Education**  
**NIEA**