

2000
RESOLUTIONS FOR THE NIEA 31ST ANNUAL CONVENTION
SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA, October 28-November 1, 2000

SUMMARY

2000-01 TITLE: *The Establishment of a National Internet Clearinghouse on Indian Education.* A resolution whereby NIEA seeks funds to establish a National Indian Internet Clearinghouse that will provide online access on current, past and future topics on Indian education relate issues.

2000-02 TITLE: *Resolution of the National Indian Education Association Supporting Full Funding of Administrative Cost Grants Tribally-Operated Schools.* A resolution whereby NIEA will urge congress to make adequate appropriations to allow for the full funding of Administrative Costs Grants and directs its Board of Directors and Executive Director to communicate this support to the Administration and Congressional Appropriations Committees.

2000-03 TITLE: *Opposition to the Fixed Based Funding and Fixed based Count of the Johnson O'Malley Program of 1995.* A resolution whereby NIEA will request Congressional support to bring forward the vote to Congress to remove the Johnson O' Malley "Fixed Based Funding and Fixed Based Count" and to increase the funding for Johnson O'Malley to the level of other federally funded education programs.

2000-04 TITLE: *Task Force for National American Indian Education Blueprint.* A resolution whereby NIEA sets up a task force to work specifically on the continued development of the National Indian Education Blueprint.

2000-05 Title: *Support for Close Up Foundation Programs.* A resolution whereby NIEA Board of Directors pledge their continued support along with the Alaska Department of Education, the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc., National Indian School Board Association and the United National Indian Tribal Youth, Inc. for the Close Up Program and the opportunity it provides for American Indian and Alaska Native students.

#2000-06 TITLE: *Support for the Continuance of the Comprehensive Centers.* As resolution whereby NIEA supports the continued funding of the 15 Comprehensive Centers and for NIEA to monitor the progress of the reauthorization of the center-related bill through the legislative process.

2000-07 TITLE: *The Silent Enemy: Issues of Institutional Racism at Post-Secondary Institutions.* A resolution whereby NIEA addresses the impact of institutional racism in all its forms in post-secondary institutions of higher education.

2000-08 TITLE: *NIEA Support for American Indian Centers.* A resolution whereby NIEA urges educational organizations and institutions across the country, both public and

private, to include a curriculum that accurately depicts the historical and contemporary legal and political rights of tribes and their relationships with non-tribal sovereigns, and support the increase in funding for American Indian Education Centers nationwide, including those located in California and to provide for expansion of such centers to Indian communities that are not currently served.

2000-09 TITLE: *Strong opposition to English Only Language Education for Native Children in Public Schools.* A resolution in opposition to Arizona's State Ballot Proposition 203 – English Language Education for Children in Public Schools, also referred to as “English Only” legislation.

RESOLUTION #2000-01

TITLE: The Establishment of a National Internet Clearinghouse on Indian Education

WHEREAS the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) was established in 1969 for the purpose of advocating, planning, and promoting the unique and special education needs of American Indian and Alaska Native people; and

WHEREAS, NIEA, as the largest national organization of American Indian and Alaska Native educators, administrators, parents, and students in the United States, provides a forum to discuss and act upon issues affecting the education of Native people; and

WHEREAS, through its unique political relationship with Indian nations and tribes, the federal government has established education program resources to meet the educational needs of American Indians and Alaska Natives residing both on and off their reserved or non-reserved homelands; and

WHEREAS, NIEA was established to improve and represent Indian Education across the Nation through advocacy, technical assistance, coordination and communication; and

WHEREAS, NIEA supports Native cultures and values to enable Native learners to be contributing members of their communities and to promote native control of education, and to improve educational opportunities and resources for American Indians, Alaska Natives and more recently including Native Hawaiians; and

WHEREAS, information on available resources and technical assistance to educators of American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian students has greatly diminished over the past five years due to the closing of Indian Education Technical Assistance Centers and their diminished role in the Comprehensive Centers; and

WHEREAS, the Internet has revolutionized for all Americans access to untold amounts of information on innumerable topics, including Indian education; and

WHEREAS, the 31st NIEA convention theme "Tribal Traditions and Technology...Our Pathway to the 21st Century" is reflective of the organization's mission.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION seek funds to establish a National Indian Education Association Internet Clearinghouse which will provide online access on current, past and prediction of the future of Indian education topics to Indian educators, Indian researchers, students of Indian educators and to educators of American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION will establish a Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel composed of top Indian educators that will assist in structuring the policies relating to the establishment, the operation and maintenance of the National Indian Education Association Clearinghouse; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION make the establishment of the National Indian Education Association Clearinghouse a high priority to make it a reality within the next three years.

SUBMITTED BY: Stuart A. Tonemah (*Kiowa/Comanche*)

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered and passed by the NIEA membership assembled at its annual convention in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, at which a quorum was present during the meeting held October 28-November 1, 2000.

Dr. Gloria E. Sly, President (1999-00)

RESOLUTION #2000-02

TITLE: Resolution of the National Indian Education Association Supporting Full Funding of Administrative Cost Grants Tribally-Operated Schools.

WHEREAS, the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) was established in 1969 for the purpose of advocating, planning, and promoting the unique and special education needs of American Indian and Alaska Native people; and

WHEREAS, NIEA, as the largest national organization of American Indian and Alaska Native educators, administrators, parents, and students in the United States, provides a forum to discuss and act upon issues affecting the education of Native people; and

WHEREAS, through its unique political relationship with Indian nations and tribes, the federal government has established education program resources to meet the educational needs of American Indians and Alaska Natives residing both on and off their reserved or non-reserved homelands; and

WHEREAS, two-thirds of the 185 BIA-funded schools are operated by tribes or tribal school boards, and educate nearly 50,000 Indian children who live on or near reservations; and

WHEREAS, BIA-funded schools, as one of only two federal school systems, depend on federal funds for their school operating and facility costs, and rely entirely on Administrative Costs Grants to meet the indirect and administrative costs needed for the basic management of these schools; and

WHEREAS, the Administrative Cost Grants are a separate line item on the Bureau of Indian Affairs budget and are similar to the Contract Support Costs for non-school programs operated by tribes under Indian self-determination Act contracts; and

WHEREAS, the Congressional appropriation for Administrative Cost Grants has been "frozen" for the past three years (at \$42,160,000) which has been insufficient to fund these Grants at the full amount required by the statutory formula; this has resulted in a pro-rata reduction in funding for all tribally-controlled schools; the amount of AC Grant need met has fallen from 89.5% in SY98-99 to less than 82% in SY99-00, and the rate of payment is expected to be even lower in SY00-01 and SY01-02; and

WHEREAS, tribally-operated schools are plagued by insufficient funding for their administrative costs at a time when more schools are converting to tribal operation, and these schools are forced to make detrimental reductions in necessary staff, hindering tribally-operated schools from providing fundamental education functions for our Indian children.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION, supports the full funding of Administrative Cost Grants under the statutory formula for tribally-operated schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION urges Congress to make adequate appropriations to allow for the full funding of Administrative Cost Grants and directs its Board of Directors and Executive Director to communicate this support to the Administration and the Congressional Appropriation Committees; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION instructs its Board of Directors and Executive Director to urge the National Congress of American Indians, at its 2000 Annual Session, to adopt a resolution supporting full funding for the Administrative Cost Grant statutory formula for tribally-controlled schools.

SUBMITTED BY: Lorena Zah Bahe (*Navajo*)

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered and passed by the NIEA membership assembled at its annual convention in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, at which a quorum was present during the meeting held October 28-November 1, 2000.

Dr. Gloria E. Sly, President (1999-00)

RESOLUTION #2000-03

TITLE: A resolution opposing the Fixed-Based Funding and Fixed-based Count of the Johnson O'Malley Program of 1995.

WHEREAS, the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) was established in 1969 for the purpose of advocating, planning, and promoting the unique and special education needs of American Indian and Alaska Native people; and

WHEREAS, NIEA, as the largest national organization of American Indian and Alaska Native educators, administrators, parents, and students in the United States, provides a forum to discuss and act upon issues affecting the education of Native people; and

WHEREAS, through its unique political relationship with Indian nations and tribes, the federal government has established education program resources to meet the educational needs of American Indians and Alaska Natives residing both on and off their reserved or non-reserved homelands; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Indian Affairs has imposed a fixed-based funding of the Johnson O'Malley Program indefinitely; and

WHEREAS, no other education program in any federal agency has imposed a fixed based formula to State and Tribal programs for Indian children; and

WHEREAS, the student count for the Johnson O'Malley does not include eligible Indian students currently enrolled in schools; and

WHEREAS, the National Indian Education Association has noted that American Indian student population has increased and will continue to increase within the Nations schools; and

WHEREAS, for which Johnson O'Malley funding adjustments are not possible under the current method of funding; and

WHEREAS, Congress has identified American Indian students pre-K through 12th grade as being the most "at-risk" student population for academic success in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the current fixed-based funding of October 1995 creates a financial hardship for Indian Education programs to assist with the "specialized and unique educational needs of eligible Indian students" to achieve the States' high academic standards; and

WHEREAS, the National Indian Education Association seeks congressional support in removing the "Fixed Based Funding and Fixed Based Count imposed in October 1995"; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION seeks support to bring forward the vote of Congress to remove the Johnson O'Malley "Fixed-Based Funding and Fixed-based Count".

SUBMITTED BY: Kathy Savalla, (*Shoshone-Paiute*)

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered and passed by the NIEA membership assembled at its annual convention in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, at which a quorum was present during the meeting held October 28-November 1, 2000.

Dr. Gloria E. Sly, President (1999-00)

RESOLUTION #2000-04

TITLE: Task Force for a National Indian Education Blueprint.

WHEREAS, the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) was established in 1969 for the purpose of advocating, planning, and promoting the unique and special education needs of American Indian and Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiians; and

WHEREAS, NIEA, as the largest national organization of American Indian and Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian educators, administrators, parents, and students in the United States, provides a forum to discuss and act upon issues affecting the education of Native people; and

WHEREAS, through its unique political relationship with Indian nations and tribes, the federal government has established education program resources to meet the educational needs of American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians residing both on and off their reserved or non-reserved homelands; and

WHEREAS, NIEA, in 1996 (#96-03) passed a resolution supporting the continued development of a National Indian Education Blueprint with the many organizations wishing to actively participate in its development; and

WHEREAS, the National Indian Education Association does support the efforts of the President's Executive Order on Indian Education seeks to improve the academic performance of American Indian and Alaska Native students; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION establish a task force to work specifically on coordinating the development of the National Indian Education Blueprint, and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION** calls upon all signers of the Declaration of Purpose for the National Indian Education Blueprint to engage activities for the Blueprint's development; and **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION** provide updates about the development of the Blueprint to its membership and interested organizations.

SUBMITTED BY: Dr. Gloria E. Sly (Cherokee) NIEA 1999-2000 president

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered and passed by the NIEA membership assembled at its annual convention in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, at which a quorum was present during the meeting held October 28-November 1, 2000.

Dr. Gloria E. Sly, President (1999-00)

Resolution #2000-05

Title: Support for Close Up Foundation Programs

WHEREAS, the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) was established in 1969 for the purpose of advocating, planning, and promoting the unique and special educational needs of American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians; and

WHEREAS, NIEA as the largest national Indian organization of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian educators, administrators, parents, and students in the United States, provides a forum to discuss and act upon issues affecting the education of Indian and Native people; and

WHEREAS, through its unique political relationship with Indian nations and tribes, the federal government has established programs and resources to meet the educational needs of American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians residing on and off their reserved or non-reserved homelands; and

WHEREAS, the Close Up Foundation, the nation's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan civic education organization, has been dedicated to providing a unique, experiential learning experience for American Indian and Alaska Native students for almost thirty years; and

WHEREAS, the Close Up Foundation's program reaches out to undeserved constituencies without regard to race, economic status or ability to help them understand that the process that governs our lives requires both effort and commitment; and

WHEREAS, the Close Up Program offers high school students direct access to public policy decision makers as well as the opportunity for them to interact with their peers from throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, the Close Up Program enhances knowledge and skills necessary to more active and informed citizenship; and

WHEREAS, American Indian and Alaska Native students have identified this program as one of the most effective programs where young people can develop both political and social growth; and

WHEREAS, the Close Up Foundation is seeking support to continue its work with and develop new programs for American Indian and Alaska Native students; and

WHEREAS, the Close Up Foundation is seeking talented Native American individuals as staff to work with all types of students and teachers; and

WHEREAS, the Close Up Foundation is seeking support from Indian country to provide speakers as role models when its student participants are in Washington, D.C.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NIEA Board of Directors reaffirm its support along with the Alaska Department of Education, the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc., National Indian School Board Association and the United National Indian Tribal Youth, Inc. for the Close Up Program and the opportunity it provides for American Indian and Alaska Native students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NIEA Board of Directors and its members to take all necessary action to support renewed funding from the United States Congress to enable full participation by eligible American Indian and Alaska Native students in the Close Up Program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NIEA board of directors and its members encourage ongoing financial support from the tribes, and from the business and corporate sector for the Close Up Foundation's programs to ensure continued participation by American Indian and Alaska Native students and to expand the programs availability to additional tribes throughout the country; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NIEA Board of Directors reaffirms its strong support for the Close Up Foundation's program for American Indians and Alaska Natives, and pledges to encourage all of its members to take any and all actions necessary to demonstrate this support to ensure participation by American Indian and Alaska Native students.

SUBMITTED BY: Carmen Taylor

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered and passed by the NIEA Board of Directors at its October 27-November 1, 2000 meeting in Sioux Falls, S.D., at which a quorum was present.

Dr. Gloria Sly, President (1999-2000)

RESOLUTION #2000-06

TITLE: Continuance of the Comprehensive Centers

WHEREAS, the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) was established in 1969 for the purpose of advocating, planning, and promoting the unique and special education needs of American Indian and Alaska Native people; and

WHEREAS, NIEA, as the largest national organization of American Indian and Alaska Native educators, administrators, parents, and students in the United States, provides a forum to discuss and act upon issues affecting the education of Native people; and

WHEREAS, through its unique political relationship with Indian nations and tribes, the federal government has established education program resources to meet the educational needs of American Indians and Alaska Natives residing both on and off their reserved or non-reserved homelands; and

WHEREAS, Part A, section 13101 of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 authorized the creation and establishment of fifteen Comprehensive Regional Assistance Centers, for a duration of five years, and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Centers was to deliver technical assistance to Local Education agencies, tribal schools, public schools with high concentrations of American Indian, Native Hawaiians and Alaskan Natives, and

WHEREAS, the areas where these populations reside are remote, high poverty areas, have exhibited high drop-out rates for students, have a high concentration of homeless, neglected children and experience high levels of drug use and violence in the community and schools, and

WHEREAS, the Centers under this section have been cognizant and mindful in the delivery of services of the sovereignty of Tribes, and their unique and special relationship to the Federal Government that has been reinforced by treaties, Congress and Supreme Court decisions and other legislation, and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Centers have offered, provided and delivered technical assistance to Local Education Agencies to these eligible populations to assist in the implementation of strategies, methods and materials which address specific cultural and other needs of American Indian and Alaska Native students, and Native Hawaiians, and

WHEREAS, these Comprehensive Centers over the past five years have dutifully carried out the intent of the Indian Education Act in delivering quality services to areas of the country where the special education, academic and cultural needs of Indian students are difficult to deliver, and

WHEREAS, these Comprehensive Centers have diligently ensured the quality and effectiveness of the networked systems through delivery of services through technical assistance requests from Local Education Agencies, Tribes, tribal organizations and Tribal Colleges, and

WHEREAS, The fifteen Comprehensive Centers have maintained appropriate staff expertise, provided support, training, and assistance to tribal departments of education, schools and other eligible grant recipients under this authority, and

WHEREAS, the Centers have improved the quality of instruction, curricula, assessments and other aspects of school reform support with funds under Title I, and

WHEREAS, the Centers play a critical role in meeting the needs of children served under this Act includes children in high-poverty areas, migratory children, children with limited English proficiency, neglected or delinquent children, homeless children and youth, Indian children with disabilities and Alaska Native children and Hawaiian children, and

WHEREAS, these Centers have coordinated services, worked cooperatively, regularly shared information with the regional educational laboratories, the Eisenhower regional consortia under part C, research and development centers, State literacy centers and other entities engaged in research, development, dissemination and technical assistance, and

WHEREAS, these Centers have delivered a broad range of support services to schools in their respective regions while minimizing the duplication of services, have worked collaboratively with the Department's regional offices, state education agencies and tribal education departments and those organizations that provide high-quality technical assistance to populations served under this act, and

WHEREAS, the intent of the Act has been to give priority to servicing school wide programs under section 1114 and local education agencies and Bureau-funded schools with the highest percentages or numbers of children in poverty, and

WHEREAS, the all of those services delivered by the Comprehensive Centers Network have effectively been terminated as of September 30, 2000 until official word is received under the continuing resolution to start up services until December 2000, and

WHEREAS, the termination of these services will create a huge detriment to local education agencies, tribal schools, public schools serving high populations of American Indian, Alaskan Natives and Native Hawaiians, Bureau funded schools, tribes and tribal organizations and other eligible populations who have benefited over the past five year funding cycle, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION

ASSOCIATION supports the continued funding of the 15 Comprehensive Centers under the Reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act in order to deliver technical assistance services to Tribal Schools, Tribes, Bureau funded Schools, tribal organizations and schools with high populations of Native Hawaiians and American Indians, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION

ASSOCIATION continue the work of bringing updated information to its constituency on the above cited act and act as the lead agency in advocating monitoring the progress of this through the legislative process.

SUBMITTED BY: Carole Anne Heart (*Sicangu Lakota*)

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered and passed by the NIEA membership assembled at its annual convention in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, at which a quorum was present during the meeting held October 28-November 1, 2000.

Dr. Gloria E. Sly, President (1999-00)

RESOLUTION #2000-07

TITLE: The Silent Enemy: Institutional Racism at Post-Secondary Institutions

WHEREAS, the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) was established in 1969 for the purpose of advocating, planning, and promoting the unique and special education needs of American Indian and Alaska Native people; and

WHEREAS, NIEA, as the largest national organization of American Indian and Alaska Native educators, administrators, parents, and students in the United States, provides a forum to discuss and act upon issues affecting the education of Native people; and

WHEREAS, through its unique political relationship with Indian nations and tribes, the federal government has established education program resources to meet the educational needs of American Indians and Alaska Natives residing both on and off their reserved or non-reserved homelands; and

WHEREAS, NIEA should consider addressing Native American representation and professional educational leadership in post-secondary institutions. That Native American

Ph.D. faculty need critical attention from national and state organizations who have vested in Native American education (employment opportunities, awards of tenure, appreciation/acceptance of academic contributions and scholarships etc.); and **WHEREAS**, NIEA needs to include civil rights and E.E.O.C. regulations along with their established needs that the members understand the latest federal policy and legislative developments and national trends impacting Indian country. Typically this focus has been from Head start/Early Childhood, K-12, and through undergraduate and graduate schools. The breadth and depth presently needs to include post Ph.D. graduates and educators in higher education; and

WHEREAS, the impact of institutional racism in all its forms in post-secondary institutions has and continues to affect/effect Native American Ph.D. faculty on many professional levels, community colleges, four year colleges, and graduate schools. It is the prayer that a national policy be introduced, implemented, and endorsed by NIEA that protects the civil and human rights of Native American Ph.D. faculty that the extent of this policy promotes prevention (equitable opportunity for advancement), intervention (allocation of investigation to supplement local Civil Rights Division and/or legal counselors) and research regarding claims of unfair employment practices.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION approach the U. S. Department of Justice, Commission on Civil Rights to undertake a study of issues of institutional racism, tenure related issues and the treatment of Native American Ph.D. faculty at post-secondary institutions, and **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION** support the creation, endorsement and implementation of a national policy calling for the protection of civil and human rights of Native Americans in Ph.D. faculty at post-secondary institutions to the extent that such policy provide for prevention, intervention and research.

SUBMITTED BY: Vivian Delgado, Ph. D.

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered and passed by the NIEA membership assembled at its annual convention in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, at which a quorum was present during the meeting held October 28-November 1, 2000.

Dr. Gloria E. Sly, President (1999-00)

RESOLUTION #2000-08

TITLE: NIEA Support for American Indian Centers

WHEREAS, the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) was established in 1969 for the purpose of advocating, planning, and promoting the unique and special education needs of American Indian and Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiians; and

WHEREAS, NIEA, as the largest national organization of American Indian and Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian educators, administrators, parents, and students in the United States, provides a forum to discuss and act upon issues affecting the education of Native people; and

WHEREAS, through its unique political relationship with Indian nations and tribes, the federal government has established education program resources to meet the educational

needs of American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians residing both on and off their reserved or non-reserved homelands; and

WHEREAS, the State of California has the largest American Indian population in the United States, with over 300,000 individuals as documented through the most recent census, and based on these population statistics has the largest pre-k through 12th grade Indian student population; and

WHEREAS, the State of California accepted the responsibility, in 1934, for educating American Indian students in its public schools; and

WHEREAS, American Indian students have the highest drop out rates and lowest graduation rates of any student population in United States, and are dispersed through thousands of public schools making it impossible for them to receive a curriculum that meets their culturally related academic needs, and present education reforms being implemented in California do not address these needs; and

WHEREAS, the California Indian Education Centers established in 1975 provide the sole vehicle for ensuring a culturally related academic program, while strengthening the public school program; and

WHEREAS, California's Governor Gray Davis has recently vetoed bills that would expand and enhance necessary services to these student through American Indian Education centers (California AB 1746), and that would create California Indian curriculum to be used in its public schools (California AB 1439), and

WHEREAS, the National Indian Education Association passed a resolution (#99-08) supporting the development of a model k-12 curriculum that accurately depicts the historical, contemporary, legal, and political rights of tribes and their relationships with non-tribal sovereigns calling upon educators and educational organizations and institutions across the country, both public and private to modernize their curricula to include this curriculum, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION calls for all educational organizations and institutions across the country, both public and private, to include a curriculum that accurately depicts the historical and contemporary legal and political rights of tribes and their relationships with non-tribal sovereigns; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION supports the increased funding of existing American Indian Education Centers across the United States, including those in California and to provide and for expansion of such centers to Indian communities that are not currently served.

SUBMITTED BY: Judy Strang (*Maidu*)

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered and passed by the NIEA membership assembled at its annual convention in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, at which a quorum was present during the meeting held October 28-November 1, 2000.

Dr. Gloria E. Sly, President (1999-00)

RESOLUTION #2000-09

TITLE: Strong opposition to English Only Language Education for Native Children in Public Schools.

WHEREAS, the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) was established in 1969 for the purpose of advocating, planning, and promoting the unique and special educational needs of American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians; and

WHEREAS, as the largest national Indian organization of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian educators, administrators, parents, and students in the United States, provides a forum to discuss and act upon issues affecting the education of Indian and Native people; and

WHEREAS, through its unique political relationships with Indian nations and tribes, the federal government has established programs and resources to meet the educational needs of American Indians, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiians residing on and off their reserved and non-reserved homelands.

WHEREAS, the preservation and maintenance of Indian cultures and religions, which depend totally on American Indian languages in order to thrive, is an inherent right and vital to all aspects of American Indian life; and

WHEREAS, Indian Nations are no longer concerned only with enabling their children to learn English, but enabling them to acquire and develop in both their Native languages and English: and

WHEREAS, Arizona State Ballot Proposition 203 – English Language Education for Children in Public Schools, to be voted on by Arizona voters during the November 7, 2000 General Elections, have been developed by "English for the Children" – an Arizona group claiming to be "grassroots," but is funded by Ron Unz, a wealthy California computer entrepreneur; and

WHEREAS, Ron Unz, managed Proposition 227 (Unz Initiative) that was passed in California last summer and is now determined to employ this tactic in every state of the Union eventually affecting all tribes to implement the ideology of the "English Only" movement; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 203 is an "English Only initiative that would place all children with limited English in an "intensive one-year [only] English program" which they call "sheltered English immersion" or "structure English immersion"; and

WHEREAS, the Native American Language Act of 1990, P.L. 101-477, declares the policy of the United States is to "encourage and support the use of Native American Languages as a medium of instruction" and further states "the right of Native Americans to express themselves through the use of Native American Languages shall not be restricted in any public proceeding, including publicly supported education programs"; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 203 sponsored by Ron Unz, and other such efforts would adversely affect efforts in public schools where American Indian children learn about our culture through the use of American Indian languages; and

WHEREAS, the initiative will also adversely affect funding for State funded tribal charter schools, if the school staff are found teaching in American Indian languages; and

WHEREAS, passage of Proposition 203 would place public and other schools on tribal lands and off of tribal lands that, or aspire to, offer educational instruction in an American Indian language in a difficult position between conflicting Federal, state, and tribal laws;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION declares its strong opposition to any present and future initiatives, including Proposition 203, or any measure designed to impede the rights and responsibilities of tribal nations to conserve and preserve their native languages; and **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION** directs all tribal leaders, tribal education directors, and native educators to inform and educate all concerned with the survival of American Indian languages of the destructiveness of such initiatives and measures, like Proposition 203, and to actively oppose any other actions impeding American Indian language revitalization efforts or similar attempts to destroy Indian cultures and the freedoms on which this country is founded.

SUBMITTED BY: Calbert Seciwa (*Zuni*)

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered and passed by the NIEA membership assembled at its annual convention in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, at which a quorum was present during the meeting held October 28 – November 1, 2000.
Dr. Gloria E. Sly, President (1999-00)