

EXHIBIT C

**DECLARATION OF GEOFFREY C. BLACKWELL
IN SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS'
MOTION TO DISMISS**

RESOLUTION NO. 49

BE IT RESOLVED BY the National Congress of American Indians assembled:

WHEREAS, the American Indian, in his effort to take his place in the white world and become a respected member of his community, is continually hampered by the prejudices fostered by the misrepresentations of the Indian by film producers, by the press, by members of the entertainment world, and even instructors in institutions of higher learning, and by various individuals; and

WHEREAS the Indian is by law a citizen of this country and is entitled to the same rights and privileges as other non-Indian citizens; and

WHEREAS the Indian has made and is still making important contributions to American culture and civilization,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that these organizations and individuals be petitioned to refrain from further misleading portrayal of the American Indian, and encouraged to depict him accurately and in a true-to-life manner.

RESOLUTION NO. 17

PUBLIC INFORMATION - INDIAN IMAGE

WHEREAS, much of the general "educational" material about Indians is inaccurate, slanted and distorted and casts the Indian in an unfavorable, undignified light which leads to anti-Indian prejudice and bigotry; and

WHEREAS, accurate stories and material about Indians and their colorful background are complimentary to Indians, create a favorable public image of them, and imbue feelings of pride and accomplishment among the Indians.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the National Congress of American Indians in Convention assembled September 24-27, 1968, to express a strong request to all our Indian organizations, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the various state departments of education, the various legislative and congressional committees having to do with education, and other public agencies to inaugurate programs for the eradication and elimination of such inaccurate, distorted and unfavorable literature and other material about Indians.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this derogatory matter be replaced by educational material which represents Indians as they actually were and are, knowing as we do that such material will improve public reactions to Indians and create an increasing sense of pride in the Indian people themselves.

1968 Convention
25th Annual Convention
Omaha, Nebraska

National Congress of American Indians

Est. 1944

RESOLUTION NO. NV-93-143

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Chippewa

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Joseph T. Goombi
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Cherokee

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AREA VICE PRESIDENTS

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Terry Fiddler
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Albuquerque Area
Raymond D. Apodaca
Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo

Anadarko Area
Mamie Bohay
Kiowa

Billings Area
Earl Old Person
Blackfeet

Juneau Area
Edward K. Thomas
Tlingit-Haida

Minneapolis Area
James Crawford
Forest County Potawatomi

Muskogee Area
Donald E. Giles
Peoria

Northeastern Area
J. C. Seneca
Seneca

Phoenix Area
Mary Ann Antone
Tohono O'Odham

Portland Area
Bruce Wynne
Spokane

Sacramento Area
Susan Masten
Yurok

Southeastern Area
A. Bruce Jones
Lumbee

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
(Interim)
Rachel A. Joseph
Shoshone-Paiute-Mono

RESOLUTION TO JUSTICE DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

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 rights secured under Indian cultural values, and otherwise promote the welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) is the oldest and largest national organization established in 1944 and comprised of representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and local Tribal concerns; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of NCAI; and

WHEREAS, NCAI Resolution 93-143, calling for the abolition of Indian nicknames, Mascots and Images and commercial use of these by sporting industries, colleges, universities and automobile manufacturers; and

WHEREAS, Senator Ben Campbell-Democrat, Colorado, introduced Senate Bill "the RFK Stadium Bill" which states (no building) until the team changes the name, and

WHEREAS, the United States Nations of Oklahoma, NCAI, National Indian Education Association and other National Human Rights organizations have joined in the call to end racism by eliminating Indian Mascots; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby request Senator Ben Campbell-Democrat, Colorado, and Senator Don Nickles-Republican, Oklahoma, to direct the Justice Department to investigate any human and civil rights violations by colleges, universities, and public institutions that exploit Indian imagery and lifestyles.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 1993 Annual Convention of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Nugget Hotel, in Reno/Sparks, Nevada, on the 3rd day of December 1993, with a quorum present.



gaiashkibos, President

ATTEST:



Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during the 1993 Annual Convention, November 28-December 3, 1993,
Reno/Sparks, Nevada.

National Congress of American Indians

Est. 1944

Harjo, et al. v.
Pro-Football, Inc.
Case No. 21,069

Petitioners' Ex.

RESOLUTION NO. EX DC-93-11

3

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President
Galashkibos
Chippewa

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Joseph T. Goombi
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Recording Secretary
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Shoshone-Paiute-Mono

Treasurer
W. Ron Allen
Jamestown S'Klallam

AREA VICE PRESIDENTS

Aberdeen Area
Terry Fiddler
Cheyenne River Sioux

Albuquerque Area
Raymond D. Apodaca
Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo

Anadarko Area
Elmer Manatowa
See & Fox

Billings Area
Earl Old Person
Blackfeet

Juncos Area
Edward K. Thomas
Tlingit-Haida

Minneapolis Area
James Crawford
Forest County Potawatomi

Muskogee Area
S. Diane Kelley
Cherokee

Northeastern Area
J.C. Seneca
Seneca

Phoenix Area
Mary Ann Antone
Tehono O'odham

Portland Area
Bruce Wynne
Spokane

Sacramento Area
Susan Masten
Yurok

Southeastern Area
A. Bruce Jones
Lumbee

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Michael J. Anderson
Creek

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE PETITION FOR CANCELLATION OF THE REGISTERED SERVICES MARKS OF THE WASHINGTON REDSKINS AKA PRO-FOOTBALL INC.

WHEREAS, the American Indian and Alaska Tribal Governments and people have gathered in Crystal City, Virginia, of the Washington, D.C. area, for the 1993 Executive Council Meeting of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) in order to promote the common interests and welfare of American Indian and Alaska Native peoples; and

WHEREAS, NCAI is the oldest and largest intertribal organization nationwide representative of and advocate for national, regional, and local tribal concerns; and

WHEREAS, NCAI has read and understands the Cancellation Petition Filed on September 10, 1992, before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board—attached as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, NCAI is familiar with the Registered Service Marks of the Washington Redskins and the context in which those marks are used by the Washington Redskins football organization—attached as Exhibit B; and

WHEREAS, the term REDSKINS is not and has never been one of honor or respect, but instead, it has always been and continues to be a pejorative, derogatory, denigrating, offensive, scandalous, contemptuous, disreputable, disparaging and racist designation for Native American's and

WHEREAS, the use of the registered service marks identified in Exhibit B to this resolution by the Washington Redskins football organization, has always been and continues to be offensive, disparaging, scandalous, and damaging to Native Americans.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI hereby issues its support of the cancellation petition attached as Exhibit A to this resolution, filed on September 10, 1992, by petitioners Suzan Shown Harjo (Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma), Vine Deloria, Jr., (Standing Rock Sioux), Raymond D. Apodaca (Ysleta del Sur Pueblo), Norbert S. Hill, Jr. (Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin), Manley A. Begay, Jr. (Navajo Nation), William A. Means (Oglala Sioux Tribe of

100084

Pine Ridge), and Mateo Romero (Cochiti Pueblo), against the registered marks identified in Exhibit B to this resolution.

CERTIFICATION



Rachel A. Joseph, Recording Secretary

Adopted by the Executive Council during the Executive Council Meeting, January 18-19, 1993, Crystal City, Virginia.

100085



900 Pennsylvania Avenue S.E. Washington, D.C. 20003 (202) 546-9404 Fax (202) 546-3741

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President
gaiashkibos
Chippewa

First Vice President
Susan Masten
Yurok

Recording Secretary
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AREA VICE PRESIDENTS

Aberdeen Area
Ken Billingsly
Standing Rock Sioux

Albuquerque Area
Charles J. Dorame
Tesuque Pueblo

Anadarko Area
Merle Boyd
Sac & Fox

Billings Area
John Sunchild, Sr.
Chippewa Cree

Juneau Area
Willie Kasayulie
Yup'ik

Minneapolis Area
Marge Anderson
Ojibwe

Muskogee Area
Donald E. Giles
Peoria

Northeastern Area
Keller George
Oneida

Phoenix Area
Irene C. Cuch
Northern Ute

Portland Area
Bruce Wynne
Spokane

Sacramento Area
Hank Murphy
Kumeyaay (Mission)

Southeastern Area
A. Bruce Jones
Lumbee

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
JoAnn K. Chase, J.D.
Mandan Hidatsa

Resolution # 94-DEN-LG/HRC-055

Title: Request for USDJ and USDE Investigate Complaint against the University of Illinois

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 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 welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution; and

WHEREAS, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) is the oldest and largest national organization established in 1944 and comprised of representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and local Tribal concerns; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of NCAI; and

WHEREAS, the NCAI has continually supported the abolition of negative Indian mascots, images, nicknames; and

WHEREAS, a complaint was filed with US Department of Education of racism by American Indian students and faculty at the University of Illinois; now

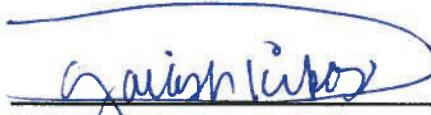
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that NCAI urges a thorough and joint investigation of these complaints to ensure an inclusive environment for Indian Students.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE AT DENVER, COLORADO

NOVEMBER 13-18, 1994

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 1994 Annual Convention of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Sheraton Tech Center Hotel in Denver, Colorado, on November 13-18, 1994 with a quorum present.



gaiashkibos, President

ATTEST:



S. Diane Kelley, Recording Secretary



*National
Congress of
American
Indians*

Resolution SD-95-053

Title: Formation of Inter-Tribal Advisory Board Regarding Use of Indian Mascots

Executive Committee

President
gaiashkibos
Chippewa

First Vice President
Susan Masten
Yurok

Recording Secretary
S. Diane Kelley
Cherokee

Treasurer
Mary Ann Antone
Tohono O'odham

Area Vice Presidents

Aberdeen Area
Ken Billingsley
Standing Rock Sioux

Albuquerque Area
Charles J. Dorame
Tesuque Pueblo

Anadarko Area
Merle Boyd
Sac & Fox

Billings Area
John Sunchild, Sr.
Chippewa Cree

Juneau Area
Willie Kasayulie
Yup'ik

Minneapolis Area
Marge Anderson
Mille Lacs Ojibwe

Muskogee Area
Rena Duncan
Chickasaw

Northeast Area
Keller George
Oneida

Phoenix Area
Irene C. Cuch
Northern Ute

Portland Area
Bruce Wynne
Spokane

Sacramento Area
Hank Murphy
Sycuan

Southeast Area
A. Bruce Jones
Lumbee

Executive Director
JoAnn K Chase
Mandan Hidatsa

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 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 welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution; and

WHEREAS, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) is the oldest and largest national organization established in 1944 and comprised of representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and local Tribal concerns; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of NCAI; and

WHEREAS, the NCAI and Indian Tribes, Nations, Bands, and Peoples are concerned about the misrepresentation of historical truth about Indian peoples and cultures depicted in the media of the United States, and believes there exists a tremendous duty to actively pursue the re-education of all Americans about the positive attributes of the Indian peoples; and

WHEREAS, the Indian peoples of North America, Meso-America, and South America have contributed to the survival and enrichment of the world's populations through encounters by the transfer of territory, minerals, food basics, and, most importantly, new political/philosophical thoughts that have energized the democratic movements of the "Old World" since 1492; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has recognized the important contributions of the Indian nations to the formulation of the constitutional democratic representative republic system of government enjoyed by all Americans today through the ratification of Senate Concurrent Resolutions #76 of 1987 and House Concurrent Resolution #331 of 1988; and

WHEREAS, the Indian Tribes and Nations are concerned about the negative images and stereotypes associated with the utilization of Indian Mascots currently popular amongst the American sports institutions and believe their concerns are legitimate and their rights to protest such exploitation is protected by the U.S. Constitution and that any sports institution or team that does not work with Indian country and enter cooperative agreements with the same on this subject matter shall be directly and consistently protested and boycotted; and

WHEREAS, the American sports institutions have presented the popular view that the utilization of Indian Mascots for sports entities public recognition is founded on national acknowledgment of the existence of certain values and characteristics associated with the American Indians, such as valor, bravery, honesty, integrity, strength and other positive attributes important for social awareness and recognition in the media; and

WHEREAS, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI), the Northwest Indian Fish Commission (NWIFC), NCAI, the National Tribal Environmental Council (NTEC), and the Council of Energy Resource Tribes (CERT) have all, over time, supported the "Indian-in-the-Moon" project as one that favorably represents values of Indian country that are important culturally, traditionally, ceremonially, socially, politically, and environmentally; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the state of Washington has declared the importance of the Indian-in-the-Moon Project for creating general citizen awareness of Indian love and respect for the Earth, Sky, and all of creation, and the NWIFC and NTEC have worked with the Moon's Prayer Foundation (Project Coordinator) to produce 25,000 post cards, 18,000 posters, and a Public Service Announcement for televised teaching of this public awareness campaign; and

WHEREAS, various regional and national tribal organizations had supported the deliverance of a paper entitled "A Statement of U.S.A. Indian Peoples on the Ethics for Living Without Surrendering Governmental Integrity," as requested by Sir Bishop Reeves, Chairman of the International Indigenous Peoples Committee (U.N. for Earth Summit) and the International Council of Churches on Religion and the Earth (ICCRE), which advocated the recognition of this image campaign for its advocacy of positive earth ethics; and

WHEREAS, the Moon's Prayer Foundation Board, composed of Jewell James, Joe DeLacruz, and Billie Frank, as incorporated by the Lummi Indian Nation, proposes the development of a joint venture with all the respective American sports institutions that use Indian Mascots (e.g., Washington Redskins, Cleveland Indians, Atlanta Braves) and the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI), NCAI, and other respected Indian entities, to utilize the "Indian-in-the-Moon" project as a national symbol of awareness of the positive attributes and contributions provided by Indian country to the benefit of the world, especially the United States; and

WHEREAS, Indian country and NCAI are cognizant of the problems associated with the current anti-Indian sentiments seizing control of Congress through the initiative of racist politicians, and recognizes that the majority of the Congress is not aware of the general support that exists in the American public for Indian peoples and causes, and such problems are heightened by the anti-Indian sentiment that continues to permeate the U.S. Supreme Court, and so a positive public media

campaign that is guided by Indian country is absolutely essential to reverse the anti-Indian movement or nullify its progress; and

WHEREAS, the "Indian-in-the-Moon" project is based on the many "Star Child" myths that exist in Indian country and reflects the positive ethics associated with Indian country, and simultaneously provides a great opportunity for the NMAI, Indian leadership, and Indian artists to work together in creating greater public awareness of the support the Museum will require for the next few decades of its development and fund-raising, and that this project has great potential for the common benefit of all of Indian country; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCAI and the Moon's Prayer Foundation Board hereby commit to work with all American sports institutions that agree to participate in an advisory board on the project to the enhancement of the National Museum of the American Indian, and to the perpetration of a more honorable recognition of the positive attributes of Indian peoples in the general public, nationally and internationally; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NCAI shall continue to oppose the exploitation of our Indian identities and values, as pertains to the mascot conflict, in all instances in which the exploiting entity has not joined the proposed advisory board and has not committed to work under agreements designed by the cooperating Indian leadership participants of this project, and that the above-advocated project is not a surrender of our original opposition but rather the development of a cooperative joint venture that shall benefit all parties mutually for future generations of children, and any sports teams that do not join this effort shall continue to be boycotted and protested.

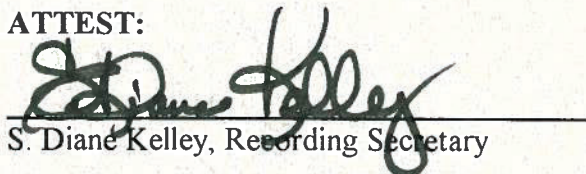
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 1995 Annual Convention of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Town and Country Hotel in San Diego, California, on October 29 - November 3, 1995 with a quorum present.



W. Ron Allen, President

ATTEST:



S. Diane Kelley, Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during the 1995 Annual Convention of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Town and Country Hotel in San Diego, California, on October 29 - November 3, 1995.



National
Congress of
American
Indians

Resolution # JNU-97-106

Executive Committee

President
W. Ron Allen
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

First Vice President
Ernie Stevens, Jr.
Oneida Nation of Wisconsin

Recording Secretary
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Cherokee Nation

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Ketchikan Indian Corporation

Area Vice Presidents

Aberdeen Area
Russell (Bud) Mason
Three Affiliated Tribes

Albuquerque Area
Joe Garcia
San Juan Pueblo

Anadarko Area
Merle Boyd
Sac & Fox Tribe

Billings Area
John Sunchild, Sr.
Chippewa Cree Tribe

Juneau Area
Edward K. Thomas
Tlingit-Haida Central Council

Minneapolis Area
Marge Anderson
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe

Muskogee Area
Rena Duncan
Chickasaw Nation

Northeast Area
Ken Phillips
Oneida Nation of New York

Phoenix Area
Arlan D. Melendez
Reno-Sparks Indian Colony

Portland Area
Bruce Wynne
Spokane Tribe

Sacramento Area
Juana Majel
Pauma Band of San Luiseno

Southeast Area
James Hardin
Lumbee Tribe

Executive Director
JoAnn K. Chase
Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara

2010 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Second Floor
Washington, DC 20036
202.466.7767
202.466.7797 facsimile

Title: Condemn Use of Indian Mascots

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 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 welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution; and

WHEREAS, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) is the oldest and largest national organization established in 1944 and comprised of representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and local Tribal concerns; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of NCAI; and

WHEREAS, NCAI is familiar with the Registered Service Marks of the Washington Redskins and the context in which those marks are used by the Washington Redskins football organization; and

WHEREAS, NCAI has read and understands the Cancellation Petition Filed on September 10, 1992 before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board; and

WHEREAS, the term "Redskins" is not and has never been one of honor or respect, but instead, it has always been and continues to be a pejorative, derogatory, denigrating, offensive and racist designation for Native Americans; and

WHEREAS, the use of the registered service marks by the Washington Redskins football organization has always been and continues to be offensive and damaging to Native Americans.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the National Congress of American Indians hereby reaffirms its support for Resolution EX-93-11, which condemns the use of Indian mascots and its support for the cancellation petition filed on September 10, 1992, by petitioners Suzan Shown Harjo (Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma), Vine Deloria, Jr. (Standing Rock Sioux), Raymond D. Apodaca (Ysleta del Sur Pueblo), Norbert S. Hill, Jr. (Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin), Manley A. Begay (Navajo Nation), Will A. Means (Oglala Sioux Tribe of Pine Ridge), and Mateo Romero (Cochiti Pueblo).

NCAI 1997 MID-YEAR CONFERENCE

RESOLUTION # 97-106

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 1997 Mid-Year Conference of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Centennial Hall Convention Center in Juneau, Alaska on June 8-11, 1997 with a quorum present.



W. Ron Allen, President

ATTEST:


Juana Majel, Acting Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during the 1997 Mid-Year Conference held at the Centennial Hall Convention Center in Juneau, Alaska, on June 8-11, 1997.

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS



RESOLUTION # MRB-98-090

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT
W. Ron Allen
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
Ernie Stevens, Jr.
Oneida Nation of Wisconsin

RECORDING SECRETARY
Lela Kaskalla
Nambe Pueblo

TREASURER
Russell (Bud) Mason
Three Affiliated Tribes

AREA VICE PRESIDENTS

ABERDEEN AREA
Gerald M. Clifford
Oglala Sioux

ALBUQUERQUE AREA
Joe A. Garcia
Ohkay Owingeh
San Juan Pueblo

ANADARKO AREA
Gary McAdams
Wichita & Affiliated Tribes

BILLINGS AREA
Earl Old Person
Blackfeet Tribe

JUNEAU AREA
Steve Ginnis
Native Village of Fort Yukon

MINNEAPOLIS AREA
Bernida Churchill
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe

MUSKOGEE AREA
S. Diane Kelley
Cherokee Nation

NORTHEAST AREA
Michael W. Schindler
Seneca Nation of Indians

PHOENIX AREA
Ivan Makil
Salt River Pima-Maricopa

PORTLAND AREA
Henry Cagey
Lummi Nation

SACRAMENTO AREA
Cheryl A. Seidner
Table Bluff Reservation / Wiyot

SOUTHEAST AREA
A. Bruce Jones
Lumbee Tribe

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JoAnn K. Chase
Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara

Title: Native Americans as Mascots

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 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 welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution; and

WHEREAS, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) is the oldest and largest national organization established in 1944 and comprised of representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and local Tribal concerns; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of NCAI; and

WHEREAS, the use of Native American symbols and imagery as mascots are often viewed as demeaning and disrespectful to American Indian/Alaska Native people; and

WHEREAS, numerous public schools, professional sports teams and businesses use American Indian/Alaska Native imagery as mascots in their logos or other public representations; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for American Indians and Alaska Natives to address this issue on a national basis.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that NCAI does hereby urge all public schools, professional sports teams, and private businesses to discontinue the use of Native American imagery in the promotion or representation of their school, team or business through an aggressive educational effort; and

NCAI 1998 55TH ANNUAL SESSION

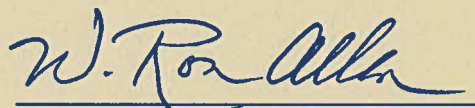
RESOLUTION # 98-090

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI does hereby add the considerable weight of its influence to provide information and education to the general public regarding the negative impact of stereotypical imagery; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that NCAI does hereby develop an educational/informational packet to be utilized by tribal governments or individuals in their efforts to educate the public about this issue.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 1998 55th Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina on October 18-23, 1998 with a quorum present.



W. Ron Allen, President

ATTEST:



Lela Kaskalla, Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during the 1998 55th Annual Session held at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina on October 18-23, 1998.

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT
Tex G. Hall
Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
Joe A. Garcia
Ohkay Owingeh
(Pueblo of San Juan)

RECORDING SECRETARY
Juana Majel
Pauma-Yuima

TREASURER
Alma Ransom
St. Regis Mohawk Tribe

REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS

ABERDEEN
Harold Frazier
Cheyenne River Sioux

ALBUQUERQUE
John F. Gonzales
San Ildefonso Pueblo

ANADARKO
James M. Potter
Prairie Band Potawatomi

BILLINGS
Geri Small
Northern Cheyenne Tribe

JUNEAU
Mike Williams
Yupiaq

MINNEAPOLIS
Bob Chicks
Stockbridge-Munsee Band of
Mohican Indians

MUSKOGEE
Jefferson Keel
Chickasaw Nation

NORTHEAST
Kevin Seneca
Seneca Nation

PHOENIX
Evelyn B. Juan-Manuel
Tohono O'odham Nation

PORTLAND
Ernie Stensgar
Coeur d'Alene Tribe

SACRAMENTO
Richard Milanovich
Agua Caliente Band of
Cahuilla Indians

SOUTHEAST
Eddie Tullis
Poarch Band of Creek Indians

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Jacqueline Johnson
Tlingit

NCAI HEADQUARTERS
1301 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036
202.466.7767
202.466.7797 fax
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THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF
AMERICAN INDIANS

RESOLUTION #SD-02-051

Title: Support for HR 5487, the Native Act to Transform Images in Various Environments (NATIVE)

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 and their way of life, 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 use of names and symbols that are detrimental to Native Americans by non-tribal schools and colleges furthers the mistreatment and discriminative action against Native peoples, especially Native students; and

WHEREAS, the NATIVE bill seeks to remedy this situation by providing a vehicle through which Native people can assist such schools in changing their images and attitudes.

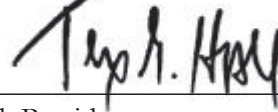
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby support the NATIVE bill to establish a grant and education program, guided by Native people, to assist schools with changing their offensive names and symbols; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI supports the NATIVE bill to provide construction and renovation funding to both tribal and non-tribal schools and colleges in order for them to remove offensive American Indian-related mascots and slogans; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2002 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Town and Country Convention Center, in San Diego, California on November 10-15, 2002 with a quorum present.



Tex Hall, President

ATTEST:



Juana Majel, Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during the 2002 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Town and Country Convention Center, in San Diego, California on November 10-15, 2002.



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

**The National Congress of American Indians
Resolution #TUL-05-087**

TITLE: Support for NCAA Ban on “Indian” Mascots

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT
Joe A. Garcia
*Ohkay Owingeh
(Pueblo of San Juan)*

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
Jefferson Keel
Chickasaw Nation

RECORDING SECRETARY
Juana Majel
*Pauma-Yuima Band of Mission
Indians*

TREASURER
W. Ron Allen
Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe

**REGIONAL VICE-
PRESIDENTS**

ALASKA
Mike Williams
Yupiaq

EASTERN OKLAHOMA
Joe Grayson, Jr.
Cherokee Nation

GREAT PLAINS
Mark Allen
Flandreau Santee Sioux

MIDWEST
Robert Chicks
Stockbridge-Munsee

NORTHEAST
Randy Noka
Narragansett

NORTHWEST
Ernie Stensgar
Coeur d’Alene Tribe

PACIFIC
Cheryl Seidner
Wiyot

ROCKY MOUNTAIN
Raymond Parker
*Chippewa-Cree Business
Committee*

SOUTHEAST
Leon Jacobs
Lumbee Tribe

SOUTHERN PLAINS
Steve Johnson
Absentee Shawnee

SOUTHWEST
Manuel Heart
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe

WESTERN
Kathleen Kitcheyan
San Carlos Apache

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Jacqueline Johnson
Tlingit

NCAI HEADQUARTERS
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Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036
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www.ncai.org

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 use of “Native American” sports mascots, logos, or symbols perpetuates stereotypes of American Indians that are very harmful. The “warrior savage” myth has plagued this country’s relationships with the Indian people, as it reinforces the racist view that Indians are uncivilized and uneducated and it has been used to justify policies of forced assimilation and destruction of Indian culture; and

WHEREAS, sports teams with “Indian” logos represent Native Americans as archaic stereotypes when Native Americans are members of and contributors to contemporary society, and two-thirds or over 2,000 of such “Indian” references in sports have been eliminated during the past 35 years. The stereotypes of uneducated warrior savages cause employers to discriminate against American Indians who are seeking jobs in fields that require education and sophistication; and

WHEREAS, NCAI also understands that Indian tribes, universities and sports teams can work together in ways that are respectful of tribal culture and ensure that Indian imagery is utilized in an honorable manner and NCAI respects the right of tribal councils to make their own decisions regarding their relationships with school district and university sports teams; and

WHEREAS, some tribes enjoy a positive relationship with local universities, having experienced many years of fruitful endeavors meant to bring about progress for tribal members, with universities who demonstrate their commitment to serve the Indian community through scholarships, grants, academic curriculums, etc., and seek out cooperation with the tribes.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that NCAI does hereby oppose the use of racist and demeaning “Indian” sports mascots and strongly supports the National Collegiate Athletic Association ban on “hostile or offensive” mascots in postseason NCAA activities. NCAI supports a complete ban on the use of offensive and derogatory “Indian” mascots in all sports arenas; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI acknowledges that tribes, schools and sports teams can work together in ways that are respectful of tribal culture and respects the right of each tribe and tribal community to decide for itself how best to protect and celebrate its heritage and make their own decisions regarding their relationships with school and university sports teams; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that absent specific approval or consent from the relevant tribal council(s), that the NCAI will continue to oppose the use of any “Indian” sports mascot; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI reiterates its support of and commitment to the Native position in the ongoing litigation, Harjo et al v. Pro Football, Inc., and reiterates its support of and commitment to all prior NCAI resolutions on the subject of “Native” references in sports; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

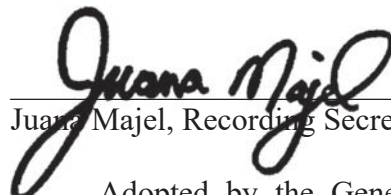
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2005 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the 62nd Annual Convention in Tulsa, Oklahoma on November 4, 2005 with a quorum present.



Joe Garcia, President

ATTEST:



Juana Majel, Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during the 2005 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians held from October 30, 2005 to November 4, 2005 at the Convention Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians
Resolution #ABQ-10-018



TITLE: Socially Responsible Investing for Indian Country

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, Socially Responsible Investing (SRI) is a broad-based approach to investing that now encompasses an estimated \$2.71 trillion out of \$25.1 trillion in the U.S. investment marketplace; and

WHEREAS, SRI recognizes that corporate responsibility and societal concerns are valid parts of investing and that SRI based investment encourages corporations to improve their practices on issues of concern to Tribes such as intellectual property rights, cultural rights, self-determination and Tribal sovereignty; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Governments are increasingly exercising their sovereignty through strengthening their institutions of government, taking over the management of their financial and resource assets and directing their financial investments towards the development of Tribal enterprises to generate jobs, income and opportunities for their Peoples; and

WHEREAS, NCAI, Native American Financial Officers Association and other financial advisors and firms recognize a growth in investable assets in Indian country; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Governments have a fiduciary responsibility to exercise due diligence for investing their funds, and socially responsible investing can assist them to utilize tribal assets to address a range of issues of concern to them, in addition to securing positive financial returns; and

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT
Jefferson Keel
Chickasaw Nation

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
Juana Majel Dixon
Pauma Band – Mission Indians

RECORDING SECRETARY
Matthew Wesaw
Pokagon Band of Potawatomie

TREASURER
W. Ron Allen
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS

ALASKA
William Martin
Central Council Tlingit & Haida

EASTERN OKLAHOMA
Cara Cowan Watts
Cherokee Nation

GREAT PLAINS
Patricia "Patti" Douville
Rosebud Sioux Tribe

MIDWEST
Marge Anderson
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe

NORTHEAST
Lance Gumbs
Shinnecock Indian Nation

NORTHWEST
Brian Cladoosby
Swinomish Tribal Community

PACIFIC
Don Arnold
Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians

ROCKY MOUNTAIN
Scott Russell
Crow Tribe

SOUTHEAST
Larry Townsend
Lumbee Tribe

SOUTHERN PLAINS
Robert Tuppeconnic
Comanche Nation

SOUTHWEST
Joe Garcia
Ohkay Owingeh

WESTERN
Irene Cuch
Ute Indian Tribe

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Jacqueline Johnson Pata
Tlingit

NCAI HEADQUARTERS

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www.ncai.org

WHEREAS, Social Responsible Investment has consistently demonstrated an equal or improved level of financial return on investments compared to other types of investment, while at the same time supporting and respecting the rights and concerns of Tribes and Indigenous Peoples in the US and around the world; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Governments and SRI can work together to enhance the “bottom lines” of the companies in which they invest in and, in so doing, can deliver greater investment returns and more long-term wealth to the tribal government, tribal members, tribal communities, neighbors, customers and vendors; and

WHEREAS, the SRI community has made firm commitments to support the rights of Indigenous Peoples, including free prior and informed consent, sovereignty, cultural rights and non-discrimination, through the establishment of Indigenous Peoples' rights screens and the establishment of an Indigenous Peoples Working Group; and

WHEREAS, the SRI community relies on direct input and respects the decision-making by impacted Tribes in order to determine its advocacy priorities and activities; and

WHEREAS, there are several ways in which to adopt SRI strategies including but not limited to screening out companies with a pattern of negative impacts on Indigenous Peoples, the environment, human rights and other issues of direct concern to Tribes; undertaking shareholder advocacy and engagement with companies on issues of social, environmental, cultural, human rights, sovereignty and governance concerns; and Community Investing to direct capital to Indigenous communities that are underserved by traditional financial services institutions; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Governments working Nation to Nation as well as collectively can have a tremendous impact on corporate policies and decision-making through partnering on shareholder resolutions in support of Tribal issues, activism and concerns, for example: offensive mascots and logos, threats to sacred sites by corporate activity, environmental contamination issues and ensuring free prior and informed consent by impacted tribes and communities; and

WHEREAS, past shareholder advocacy initiatives outlined in the “*CREATING A SUSTAINABLE WORLD: A Guide to Responsible Stewardship of American Indian Assets*” demonstrate the potentials impacts of tribal SRI engagement; and

WHEREAS, development of opportunities to consolidate Tribal SRI activities and provide a clearinghouse for tribal governments to track and monitor SRI work and initiatives would provide improved accesses and information to Tribes.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI encourages Tribal Governments to adopt a SRI policy with regards to their investable assets; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI formally adopt SRI as its standard practice; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI create space on its web site for Tribal Government to reference, monitor, track and report on Tribal or indigenous SRI initiatives; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

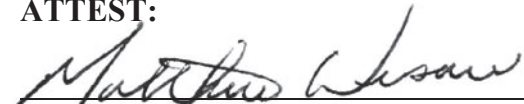
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the General Assembly at the 2010 Annual Convention of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Albuquerque Convention Center in Albuquerque, NM on November 14-19, 2010, with a quorum present.



President

ATTEST:



Recording Secretary



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians
Resolution #TUL-13-050

**TITLE: Commending Efforts to Eliminate Racist Stereotypes in Sports and
Calling on the U.S. President and Congress to Combat These Continuing
Affronts to Native Peoples**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT
Brian Cladoosby
Swinomish Tribe

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
Michael Finley
Colville Tribes

RECORDING SECRETARY
Robert Shepherd
Sisseton Wahpeton

TREASURER
Dennis Welsh, Jr.
Colorado River Indian Tribes

REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS

ALASKA
Jerry Isaac
Native Village of Tanacross

EASTERN OKLAHOMA
S. Joe Crittenden
Cherokee Nation

GREAT PLAINS
Leander McDonald
Spirit Lake Nation

MIDWEST
Aaron Payment
Sault Ste. Marie Band of Chippewa

NORTHEAST
Randy Noka
Narragansett Tribe

NORTHWEST
Fawn Sharp
Quinault Indian Nation

PACIFIC
Rosemary Morillo
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians

ROCKY MOUNTAIN
Ivan Posey
Shoshone Tribe

SOUTHEAST
Ron Richardson
Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe

SOUTHERN PLAINS
Steven Smith
Kiowa Tribe

SOUTHWEST
Manuel Heart
Ute Mountain Tribe

WESTERN
Arlan Melendez
Reno Sparks Indian Colony

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Jacqueline Johnson Pata
Tlingit

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Washington, DC 20005
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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, Native Peoples and non-Native supporters have succeeded in eliminating over two-thirds (2,000+) of the so-called “Native” names, images, mascots and behaviors from educational athletic programs, beginning with the first nationwide, the University of Oklahoma’s retirement of “Little Red” in 1970, and continuing through this year’s decision to end “Fighting Sioux” at the University of North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, despite these solid successes in colleges and universities, as well as in elementary, middle and high schools, there remain nearly 1,000 of these race-based stereotypes in educational and professional sports; and

WHEREAS, the NCAI has long supported Native efforts to eliminate racist stereotypes and cultural appropriation from American sports, including the litigation against the disparaging name of the NFL Washington franchise (*Harjo et al v. Pro Football, Inc.*, and the ongoing *Blackhorse et al v. Pro Football, Inc.*, to cancel existing trademarks, and the pending *Harjo et al Letters of Protest* against new requests to trademark the same racial slur), and supports legislation that would accomplish the same purpose as the litigation, H.R. 1278, the *Non-Disparagement of Native American Persons or Peoples in Trademark Registration Act of 2013*, which was referred to the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet, and any other legislation to eliminate racist stereotypes in sports; and

WHEREAS, there are many ways in which the President and the Administration could address these same issues, including using the bully pulpit to inform Americans that the use of race-based stereotypes and the practice of cultural appropriation may make some fans feel good or even superior to Native Peoples, but they lower the self-esteem of Native youth and have led to emotional violence and physical bullying inflicted on them by others.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI calls on the President and the Administration to help Native Peoples combat the ill effects of race-based stereotypes in sports and to make public statements to raise awareness about problems arising from these “Native” sports stereotypes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI calls on the President to support H.R. 1278, the *Non-Disparagement of Native American Persons or Peoples in Trademark Registration Act of 2013*; calls on the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet to hold a hearing on H.R. 1278; and calls on the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs to build on its record of oversight hearings to develop legislation to address this issue; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI commends the sponsors of H.R. 1278 for their ongoing commitment to educating other Members of Congress and the general public about the issues, and commends those who have pursued and are pursuing the matter in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and in the federal courts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI calls on the Secretary of Education to urge all schools, which have a federal nexus and which use “Native” sports stereotypes, to change their team names, logos, mascots and behaviors to those that do not violate the human or civil rights of Native Peoples or of any students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI commends the Secretary of Commerce and the Director of the Census Bureau for their practice of not showing any “Native” names, logos or mascots of the teams of athletes they engage to promote the Census, and urges that this practice be continued during this Census cycle; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI commends the Secretary of the Smithsonian and the Director of the National Museum of the American Indian for the *NMAI Symposium on Racist Stereotypes and Cultural Appropriation in American Sports* (March 2013), and encourages other federal entities to conduct and support similar symposia and programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI calls on all federal entities to take actions in accordance with those provisions of the United Nations’ Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which the United States has endorsed, regarding discrimination against Indigenous Peoples and the right of Indigenous Peoples to determine our own identities and to not have false identities and personalities imposed on us; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI commends all those students, families, Native Peoples, scholars, faculty members, administrators, school boards, state officials and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), who are making change, school by school, district by district and state by state; all those Native Peoples, organizations and attorneys who are making inroads on the professional sports front; and the Oneida Indian Nation in New York and the Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin for their innovative approaches to addressing the issues; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI commends all those newsrooms, editorial boards, editors, producers, columnists and others in media, who have called for an end to these stereotypes in sports and in their papers and broadcasts, and calls on more media professionals and media organizations to follow their example and editorialize, opine, and take positions geared toward ending stereotypes in sports and in their papers, broadcasts and associations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI commends its sister organizations for working together on behalf of the vast majority of Native Peoples to consign these stereotypes and cultural distortions to museums and history, and condemns the Washington NFL franchise and all other offending team owners who are engaged in the time-dishonored practice of "chief-making," as if the voice of individuals who support their continuing offense, and who may or may not be Native or chiefs, offsets those of the major organizations representing every segment of Native Peoples in the United States today; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

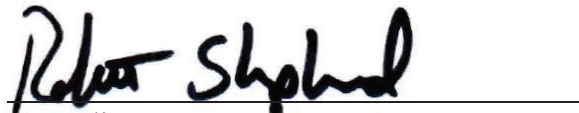
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the General Assembly at the 2013 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Cox Business Center from October 13 - 18, 2013 in Tulsa, Oklahoma with a quorum present.



President

ATTEST:



Recording Secretary



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians
Resolution #ANC-14-018

TITLE: Support for the Elimination of Race-Based Native Logos, Mascots, and Names by State Athletic Associations Receiving Federal Funds

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT
Brian Cladoosby
Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
Michael O. Finley
Congal Tribes of Colville Reservation

RECORDING SECRETARY
Robert Shepherd
Sisseton Walpiston Oyate

TREASURER
Dennis Welsh
Colorado River Indian Tribes

REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS

ALASKA
Jerry Isaac
Tanana Chiefs Conference

EASTERN OKLAHOMA
S. Joe Crittenden
Cherokee Nation

GREAT PLAINS
Leander McDonald
Spirit Lake Tribe

MIDWEST
Aaron Payment
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

NORTHEAST
Randy Noka
Narragansett Tribe

NORTHWEST
Fawn Sharp
Quinault Indian Nation

PACIFIC
Rosemary Morillo
Soboba Band of Mission Indians

ROCKY MOUNTAIN
Ivan Posey
Eastern Shoshone Tribe

SOUTHEAST
Ron Richardson
Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe

SOUTHERN PLAINS
Stephen Smith
Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma

SOUTHWEST
Manuel Heart
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe

WESTERN
Arlan Melendez
Reno Sparks Indian Colony

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Jacqueline Johnson Pata
Tlingit

NCAI HEADQUARTERS
1516 P Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005
202.466.7767
202.466.7797 fax
www.ncai.org

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

WHEREAS, self-representational use of logos, mascots and names remain a cherished tradition in many Native communities, and therefore, tribal and Native schools that so choose to retain traditional names and symbolism should be exempt from this resolution; and

WHEREAS, Native cultures have endured centuries despite attempts to destroy and assimilate them and continued use of stereotypes by major educational institutions and national sports franchises not only detracts from the proud history, cultures, and traditions of Native peoples, it is harmful to Native children; and

WHEREAS, the use of negative stereotypes is a testament to the continued practice of the outright commodification of Native peoples and their unique cultural identities; and

WHEREAS, the combined advocacy of tribes, intertribal organizations, and non-tribal partners on this issue has resulted in the elimination of Native logos, mascots, and names in hundreds of educational settings across the nation by providing workshops, presentation of professional papers, adopting resolutions, providing legal briefs, and holding forums on organizing networks of Native educators as advocates; and

WHEREAS, educational institutions and national sports franchises, unfortunately, continue the practice of using Native logos, mascots, and names despite great success and efforts by Native organizations, tribes, parents, and other stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, the limited and sparse representations of Native Americans in the media and popular culture comprise a significant portion of what children learn about Native people and thereby impact their identity formation by reinforcing stereotypes about Native cultures from the past and present; and

WHEREAS, there is a growing base of support calling for the elimination of Native logos, mascots, and names as evidence by condemnation from national leaders, such as President Barack Obama and numerous congressional members; professional organizations, such as the American Psychological Association; education advocacy organizations, such as the National Education Association; human rights and tribal organizations, like the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the National Congress of American Indians; and sports regulatory commissions, like the National Collegiate Athletic Association; and

WHEREAS, educational institutions and national sports franchises, such as Washington, DC's National Football League organization, should not be vehicles of institutionalized racism.

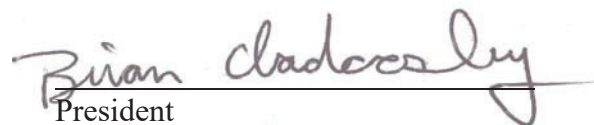
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that NCAI calls upon the Secretary of the Department of Education to immediately eliminate race-based Native logos, mascots, and names from state educational institutions across the United States, especially those receiving federal funds; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI does hereby call for educational institutions and national sports franchises to cease their use of such race-based Native logos, mascots, and names in the effort to remove these stereotypes and raise the self-esteem of Native students so they have the same opportunity as their non-Native peers to achieve academically without discrimination; and

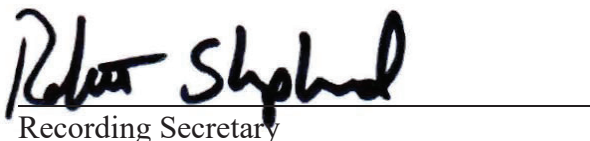
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the General Assembly at the 2014 Mid-Year Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Dena'ina Civic & Convention Center, June 8-11, 2014 in Anchorage, Alaska, with a quorum present.


President

ATTEST:


Recording Secretary



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians
Resolution #ATL-14-011

**TITLE: Urging the U.S. Secretary of Education to Take Substantive Action
Regarding Schools with “Native” Sports Stereotypes**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT
Brian Cladoosby
Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
Randy Noka
Narragansett Tribe

RECORDING SECRETARY
Robert Shepherd
Sisseton Walpston Oyate

TREASURER
Dennis Welsh
Colorado River Indian Tribes

REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS

ALASKA
Jerry Isaac
Tanana Chiefs Conference

EASTERN OKLAHOMA
S. Joe Crittenden
Cherokee Nation

GREAT PLAINS
Leander McDonald
Spirit Lake Tribe

MIDWEST
Aaron Payment
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

NORTHEAST
Lance Gumbs
Shinnecock Indian Nation

NORTHWEST
Fawn Sharp
Quinalt Indian Nation

PACIFIC
Rosemary Morillo
Soboba Band of Mission Indians

ROCKY MOUNTAIN
Ivan Posey
Eastern Shoshone Tribe

SOUTHEAST
Ron Richardson
Halawa-Saponi Indian Tribe

SOUTHERN PLAINS
Stephen Smith
Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma

SOUTHWEST
Manuel Heart
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe

WESTERN
Arian Melendez
Reno Sparks Indian Colony

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Jacqueline Johnson Pata
Tlingit

NCAI HEADQUARTERS
1516 P Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005
202.466.7767
202.466.7797 fax
www.ncai.org

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 NCAI called on the U.S. Secretary of Education “to urge all schools, which have a federal nexus and which use “Native” sports stereotypes, to change their team names, logos, mascots and behaviors to those that do not violate the human or civil rights of Native Peoples or of any students” (*Commending Efforts to Eliminate Racist Stereotypes in Sports and Calling on the U.S. President and Congress to Combat These Continuing Affronts to Native Peoples, NCAI Resolution #TUL-13-050, October 18, 2013*); and

WHEREAS, even though one year has passed, the Secretary of Education has not urged any schools to change their team identities or behaviors; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of Education has not issued guidance to schools on the injurious nature of these practices or taken any substantive action whatsoever; and

WHEREAS, the Education Department’s Office of Civil Rights has consistently ruled against Native Peoples’ interests, regarding complaints in this issue area; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Civil Rights and the White House Initiative on Indian Education urged the Education Secretary to undertake “listening sessions” on the subject, however, the Department of Education did not schedule any listening sessions for an entire year, and then conducted only minimal outreach and scheduled one hearing with two day’s notice; and

WHEREAS, there has been scientific research conducted to determine the harmful psychological effects these “Native” sports mascots on our Native youth; and

WHEREAS, according to studies conducted by Dr. Stephanie Fryberg and her colleagues, American Indian and Alaska Native high school and college students had a consistent, negative reaction to stereotypical mascots, such as Chief Wahoo of the Cleveland Indians, because these images and names remind Native youth of the limited ways in which others see them, which in turn restricts how they see themselves; and, importantly, non-native youths self esteem rose when presented with the same images; and

WHEREAS, the American Psychological Association has determined that these representations also undermine the ability of Native nations and people to portray themselves accurately as distinct and diverse cultures, and that stereotypical images are a dominant culture's prejudiced representations of a racial or ethnic minority group; and

WHEREAS, while we support the Department of Education's efforts to hold these listening sessions in Indian Country, it still has not taken any formal action to change these "Native" sports stereotypes in schools today.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that NCAI again urges the U.S. Secretary of Education to urge all schools, which have a federal nexus and which use "Native" sports stereotypes, to change their team names, logos, mascots and behaviors to those that do not violate the human or civil rights of Native Peoples or of any students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI urges the Secretary of Education to issue guidance to schools regarding the injurious nature of educational athletic programs' practices of "Native" name-calling, mascotting and cultural appropriation, and that these practices are emotional violence and bullying against Native students; and

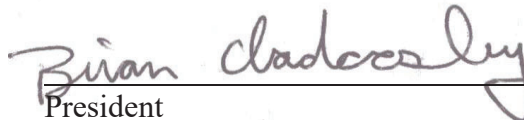
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI urges the Secretary of Education to take substantive actions to benefit Native students and to take such actions in accordance with those provisions of the United Nations' Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which the United States has endorsed, regarding discrimination against Indigenous Peoples and the right of Indigenous Peoples to determine our own identities and to not have false identities or personalities imposed on us; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI urges the Secretary of Education, in coordination with other federal entities, to conduct listening sessions, notifications, data collection and reporting in a transparent manner, and to expedite consultation with Native Peoples on the draft conclusions and recommendations resulting from the sessions; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

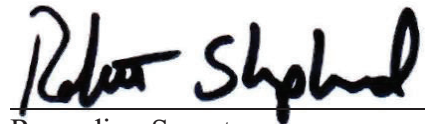
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the General Assembly at the 2014 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta, October 26-31, 2014 in Atlanta, Georgia, with a quorum present.



President

ATTEST:



Recording Secretary



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians
Resolution #SD-15-041

**TITLE: In Support of Efforts to Exert Economic Pressures against the
Washington, DC National Football League Team**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT
Brian Cladoosby
Swinomish Tribe

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
Randy Noka
Narragansett Tribe

RECORDING SECRETARY
Aaron Payment
*Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa
Indians of Michigan*

TREASURER
W. Ron Allen
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

**REGIONAL VICE-
PRESIDENTS**

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Jerry Isaac
Native Village of Tanacross

EASTERN OKLAHOMA
Joe Byrd
Cherokee Nation

GREAT PLAINS
Leander McDonald
Spirit Lake Nation

MIDWEST
Roger Rader
Pokagon Band of Potawatomi

NORTHEAST
Lance Gumbs
Shinnecock Indian Nation

NORTHWEST
Fawn Sharp
Quinalt Indian Nation

PACIFIC
Jack Potter, Jr.
Redding Rancheria

ROCKY MOUNTAIN
Darrin Old Coyote
Crow Nation

SOUTHEAST
Larry Townsend
Lumbee Tribe

SOUTHERN PLAINS
Liana Onnen
Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation

SOUTHWEST
Joe Garcia
Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo

WESTERN
Bruce Ignacio
Ute Indian Tribe

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Jacqueline Pata
Tlingit

NCAI HEADQUARTERS

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Washington, DC 20005
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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 name of the Washington, DC National Football League franchise is derogatory and disparaging to Native peoples; and

WHEREAS, on June 18, 2014 the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office canceled the trademark registration of the Washington, DC team on the grounds that the term “r*dskin” is a dictionary defined slur; and

WHEREAS, on July 8, 2015 a U.S. Federal District Judge upheld the ruling of the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office on the grounds that the term is disparaging to Native peoples; and

WHEREAS, one of the major corporate sponsors of the Washington football franchise is FedEx, a global package delivery company; and

WHEREAS, FedEx also holds naming rights to the arena of the Washington football team in Landover, Maryland; and

WHEREAS, NCAI had previously reached out to FedEx requesting them to drop their sponsorship of the Washington team but FedEx refused and NCAI has since switched its global package delivery provider; and

WHEREAS, a number of tribes and tribal entities have elected to boycott the use of FedEx services, including the Osage Nation, the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes, and the National Congress of American Indians.

WHEREAS, the United Parcel Service (UPS), also a global package delivery company, has stepped forward to support tribes by providing discounted services and charitable support for community betterment projects; and

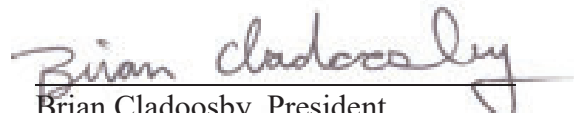
WHEREAS, the tribes should move forward in an effort to build a relationship with UPS.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) supports the effort throughout Indian Country to boycott FedEx and exert economic pressure on the Washington football franchise to change its name; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the General Assembly at the 2015 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Town and Country Resort, San Diego, CA, October 18-23, 2015, with a quorum present.


Brian Cladoosby, President

ATTEST:


Aaron Payment, Recording Secretary



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians
Resolution #MKE-17-029

TITLE: Misappropriation of Native Identity in Film & Television

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT
Jefferson Keel
Chickasaw Nation

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
Aaron Payment
*Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa
Indians of Michigan*

RECORDING SECRETARY
Juana Majel-Dixon
Pauma Band Mission Indians

TREASURER
W. Ron Allen
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

**REGIONAL VICE-
PRESIDENTS**

ALASKA
Rob Sanderson, Jr.
*Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of
Alaska*

EASTERN OKLAHOMA
Joe Byrd
Cherokee Nation

GREAT PLAINS
Larry Wright, Jr.
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska

MIDWEST
Roger Rader
Pokagon Band of Potawatomi

NORTHEAST
Lance Gumbs
Shinnecock Indian Nation

NORTHWEST
Leonard Forsman
Suquamish Tribe

PACIFIC
Willie Carrillo
Tule River Tribe of California

ROCKY MOUNTAIN
Darrin Old Coyote
Crow Nation

SOUTHEAST
Nancy Carnley
Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indians

SOUTHERN PLAINS
Zach Pahmahmie
Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation

SOUTHWEST
Joe Garcia
Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo

WESTERN
Franklin Pablo, Sr.
Gila River Indian Community

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Jacqueline Pata
Tlingit

NCAI HEADQUARTERS
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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 and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 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, Hollywood diversity and inclusion efforts have failed to recognize and implement the concerns of Native people. Historically, in Hollywood, dating back to 1898, most portrayals of Native people were by non-Natives; and

WHEREAS, Hollywood has not accurately portrayed the Native American experience in film. Film and television have not prioritized casting Native actors or telling accurate histories of Native people. Hollywood has portrayed Native people as relics of the past and as the enemies of westward expansion. These representations do not accurately portray the thriving, modern Sovereign Nations that exist in the US; and

WHEREAS, if a script calls for a Native American character, it is only right for a Native American person to be cast for that role; and

WHEREAS, stories told from a Native point of view are not widely supported by Hollywood. Studios, directors, producers and casting directors have not made substantial efforts to include Native American stories, actors and filmmakers in the film and television they produce; and

WHEREAS, Native people are concerned with our collective image, identity and acceptance and believe these misrepresentations jeopardize our future; and

WHEREAS, visual representations of Native People in film shape how American society views our sovereign Nations and the citizens of those Nations. Representation matters; and

WHEREAS, inaccurate and negative depictions of Native people in film and television can negatively impact Native Youth. Negative images and representations through film and television lead to negative treatment of Native youth impacting their self-esteem and mental health; and

WHEREAS, the stories of Indian Country are best portrayed in Hollywood by Native storytellers, including Native filmmakers and actors.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) calls on the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences to lead Hollywood's diversity efforts to promote Native Actors, Native stunt men and women, Native people in front and behind the camera and Native stories in film. NCAI calls on the Casting Society of America to cast Native Actors to represent Native people in film and television. NCAI calls on the Writers Guild of America to represent and promote Native Americans in screenwriting. NCAI urges producers, studios and directors to highlight stories that accurately and positively portray Native people and Tribal communities as they are the stories of America; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI engages the film and television industry, theater and new media to work collaboratively with Tribal Nations to find financing, tax, labor and material incentives that would promote filming and storytelling on Tribal Lands; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI calls on the Film Industry including writers, directors and producers to engage in meaningful consultation with Tribal Nations, Tribal historians and Tribal elders to ensure that stories are told accurately and to consider the complex histories and cultures of indigenous peoples of North America and their Tribal Nations in film and television. The film industry should require free, prior and informed consent from those Tribal Nations and their peoples regarding stories that portray their societies; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the General Assembly at the 2017 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Wisconsin Center in Milwaukee, WI, Oct 15, 2017 - Oct 20, 2017, with a quorum present.


Jefferson Keel, President

ATTEST:


Juana Najel Dixon, Recording Secretary



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians
Resolution #DEN-18-044

TITLE: Opposing the Washington NFL Team’s Return to the District of Columbia until the Franchise Changes Its Offensive Name and Opposing the Negative Terminology it Engenders

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT
Jefferson Keel
Chickasaw Nation

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
Aaron Payment
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Michigan

RECORDING SECRETARY
Juana Majel-Dixon
Pauma Band Mission Indians

TREASURER
W. Ron Allen
Jamestown S’Kallam Tribe

REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS

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Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

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Ponca Tribe of Nebraska

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NORTHWEST
Leonard Forsman
Suquamish Tribe

PACIFIC
Willie Carrillo
Tule River Tribe of California

ROCKY MOUNTAIN
Darrin Old Coyote
Crow Nation

SOUTHEAST
Nancy Carnley
Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indians

SOUTHERN PLAINS
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SOUTHWEST
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Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo

WESTERN
Franklin Pablo, Sr.
Gila River Indian Community

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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Tlingit

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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 and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 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 use of racist imagery is an affront to basic human rights, undermines basic human dignity, and has a negative impact upon self-image, self-awareness, and self-esteem; and

WHEREAS, the Washington team’s R-word name derives from policies of colonization in which bounties were paid for the bloody skins (need to add edits) of American Indian and Alaska Native men, women and children as proof of their killings; and

WHEREAS, every major English language dictionary defines “redskin” as an offensive term to describe American Indian and Alaska Native peoples, and this term, when used in reference to Native peoples and cultures, has a long history of American use as a pejorative and insulting term; and

WHEREAS, the continued use of racist language and images, stereotypes by national sports franchises detracts from the proud indigenous history and traditions of Native peoples and perpetuates inaccurate and harmful stereotypes about American Indian and Alaska Native peoples, exploits and degrades our culture, and relegates our people as vestiges of the past or cartoonish caricatures; and

WHEREAS, the use of the R-word as the name and mascot of the Washington National Football League team is offensive and hurtful to American Indian and Alaska Native people and causes direct, harmful effects on the physical and mental health and academic achievement of the American Indian and Alaska Native populations, particularly youth; and

WHEREAS, despite the team's arguments to the contrary, the R-word is not a term of honor or respect, but rather, a term that still connotes racism and genocide for Native peoples and for all others who know of this history and recognize that it is wrong to characterize people by the color of their skin; and

WHEREAS, the term "redskin" would not properly be used by a person when addressing an American Indian or Alaska Native person and should not be used to market a professional sports team; and

WHEREAS, the use of such stereotypes exemplifies the continued practice of outright commodification of American Indian and Alaska Native peoples and our unique cultural identities; and

WHEREAS, the abuse of American Indian and Alaska Native symbols for entertainment and profit is insensitive, insulting, and unacceptable; and

WHEREAS, the limited and sparse representation of American Indian and Alaska Native peoples in the media and popular culture comprises a significant portion of what children and society at large learn about American Indian and Alaska Native peoples and their cultures, and impacts children's identity formation by reinforcing outdated notions and stereotypes about American Indian and Alaska Native cultures from the past and present; and

WHEREAS, every major national native organization, along with hundreds of native and hundreds of thousands of allies including clergy members, churches, civil rights organizations, media outlets, journalists, authors, and elected officials have voiced support for changing the team's name; and

WHEREAS, the Washington NFL team has chosen to continue using its offensive and discriminatory name and mascot and engage in ongoing cultural appropriation despite great efforts to educate the NFL and the team about the substantial harm that the name, mascot, and resultant behaviors cause; and

WHEREAS, the team's ongoing use of a racial slur is directly at odds with the values, actions, and racial justice legacy of former U.S. Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, in whose honor RFK stadium is named, and which is the location of a proposed site for the team's future stadium.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, national sports franchises, such as Washington's NFL team, should not be vehicles of institutionalized racism, be used to indoctrinate the American public with the idea that it is acceptable to typecast, and should not continue to promote disparaging and diminishing terminology like, "political tribalism," "being on the war path," or "beating the tom tom," that dehumanize and seek to impugn the reputation of our nations and peoples; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) reaffirms its categorical opposition to the use of the demeaning R-word by the Washington NFL team and does hereby call on the District of Columbia's governing leaders, including the D.C. Council and Mayor, to oppose and refuse to approve a move back to the District by the franchise until it changes its offensive name; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the General Assembly at the 2018 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Hyatt Regency in Denver, Colorado October 21-26, 2018, with a quorum present.



Jefferson Keel, President

ATTEST:



Juana Majel Dixon, Recording Secretary



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians
Resolution #PDX-20-042

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT
Fawn R. Sharp
Quinalt Indian Nation

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
Aaron Payment
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

RECORDING SECRETARY
Juana Majel-Dixon
Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians

TREASURER
Clinton Lageson
Kenaitze Indian Tribe

REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS

ALASKA
Rob Sanderson, Jr.
Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

EASTERN OKLAHOMA
Norman Hildebrand
Wyandotte Nation

GREAT PLAINS
Larry Wright, Jr.
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska

MIDWEST
Shannon Holsey
Stockbridge Munsee Band of Mohican Indians

NORTHEAST
Tina Abrams
Seneca Nation of Indians

NORTHWEST
Leonard Forsman
Suquamish Tribe

PACIFIC
Erica Mae Macias
Cahuilla Band of Indians

ROCKY MOUNTAIN
MARK POLLOCK
Blackfeet Nation

SOUTHEAST
Nancy Carnley
Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama

SOUTHERN PLAINS
Robert Tippeconnie
Comanche Nation

SOUTHWEST
Joe Garcia
Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo

WESTERN
Amber Torres
Walker River Paiute Tribe

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
KEVIN ALLIS
FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI COMMUNITY

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TITLE: Support for the Elimination of Race-Based Native Logos, Mascots, Names, Behaviors and Practices

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 and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 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, NCAI has long held a clear position against derogatory and harmful stereotypes of Native People—including sports mascots—in media and popular culture. In 1968 NCAI launched a campaign to address stereotypes of Native peoples in popular culture and media, as well as in sports, and,

WHEREAS, the intolerance and harm promoted by these “Indian” sports mascots, logos, or symbols, have very real consequences for Native people. Specifically, rather than honoring Native Peoples, these caricatures and stereotypes are harmful, perpetuate negative stereotypes of America’s first peoples, and contribute to a disregard for the personhood of Native Peoples; and,

WHEREAS, NCAI has passed a number of resolutions calling for the elimination of race based mascots, logos, symbols and stereotypes, including publishing a report (“Report”) in October 2013 entitled, “*Harmful “Indian” Sports Mascots: Ending the Legacy of Racism in Sports & the Era of Harmful “Indian” Sports Mascots*”; and

WHEREAS, the Kansas City Chiefs are specifically listed on page 9 of the Report as one of the American sports businesses that “continue to profit from harmful stereotypes originated during a time when white superiority and segregation were common place”; and,

WHEREAS, the recent decision of the Kansas City Chiefs to prohibit fans from wearing “headdresses and face paint styled in a way that references or appropriates American Indian cultures” in an attempt to distance themselves from blatant racism while keeping established brand identity, indicates that management understands the negative social impact of their brand; and,

WHEREAS, national sports franchises, such as Kansas City, Missouri’s National Football League organization, the Chiefs, should not be a vehicle of institutionalized racism; and,

WHEREAS, NCAI Resolution #TUL-13-050, *Commending Efforts to Eliminate Racist Stereotypes in Sports and Calling on the U.S. President and Congress to Combat These Continuing Affronts to Native Peoples*, resolved that NCAI “condemns the Washington NFL franchise and all other offending team owners who are engaged in the time-dishonored practice of “chief-making,” as if the voice of individuals who support their continuing offense, and who may or may not be Native or chiefs, offsets those of the major organizations representing every segment of Native Peoples in the United States today”; and,

WHEREAS, the Heart of America Indian Center d/b/a Kansas City Indian Center, an Urban-Indian organization located in Kansas City, Missouri, has provided a multitude of services to the Native community in Kansas City since 1971; and,

WHEREAS, the Region VII American Indian Council has provided a Department of Labor Employment and Training Program to the Native community in Kansas City, Missouri, since 1974; and,

WHEREAS, the National Center for Indigenous American Cultures (Thidaware) has provided services in Kansas City, Missouri, since 2001; and,

WHEREAS, Not In Our Honor, an advocacy group formed in 2005 by Native students at the University of Kansas and Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas,, has advocated against the use of Native imagery in sports and cultural appropriation, and Kansas City Chiefs’ use of mascots and imagery specifically; and,

WHEREAS, the Heart of America Indian Center d/b/a Kansas City Indian Center, Region VII American Indian Council, National Center for Indigenous American Cultures (Thidaware), and Not in Our Honor, are all local, Native-led organizations serving the community and all are adamantly opposed to the Kansas City team’s continued use of a race-based mascot, the associated logos, imagery, and stereotypical behaviors; and,

WHEREAS, the leaders of the above organizations are keenly aware of the serious psychological, social and cultural consequences of race based mascots, logos, symbols and stereotypes for Native Peoples, especially the Native youth we serve in the Kansas City metropolitan area; and,

WHEREAS, the harmful effects of the Kansas City NFL franchise’s use of race-based stereotypes and appropriated names, symbols, mascots and behaviors, including those for the team and stadium and related “Indian” clubs, permeate every facet of society in and around Kansas City. Kansas City Native youth are subjected to advertisements on radio, TV, and marketing displays in every grocery store, including pork chops advertised as the “tomahawk chop” and “Can’t Stop the

Chop” ads featuring football fans singing the stereotypical song and doing the tomahawk chop. Additionally, fast food advertising features statements that they will “feed the tribe,” and a local Sonic’s sign stating, “KC CHIEFS’ WILL SCALP THE REDSKINS FEED THEM WHISKEY SEND – 2 – RESERVATION,” add to dehumanizing propaganda our youth are bombarded with, leading to lowered self-esteem and self-worth, and potentially leading to increased violence against American Indian youth; and,

WHEREAS, there has been scientific research conducted to determine the harmful psychological effects of these “Native” sports mascots on our Native youth; and,

WHEREAS, according to studies conducted by Dr. Stephanie Fryberg and her colleagues, Native high school and college students had a consistent, negative reaction to stereotypical mascots, such as Chief Wahoo of the Cleveland “Indians,” because these images and names remind actual Native youth of the limited ways in which others see them, which in turn restricts how they see themselves; and, importantly, non-Native youths’ self-esteem rose when presented with the same images; and,

WHEREAS, the American Psychological Association has determined that these representations also undermine the ability of Native nations and people to portray themselves accurately as distinct and diverse cultures, and that stereotypical images are a dominant culture’s prejudiced representations of a racial or ethnic minority group; and,

WHEREAS, the above Kansas City-based Native organizations have issued a statement calling on the Kansas City Chiefs to cease their use of racialized Native branding by eliminating all imagery of or evocative of Native culture, traditions, and spirituality from their team franchise by changing their name including the logo. This includes the use of Native terms, drum, arrows, or titles that assume the presence of Native culture and apply the NFL’s “zero tolerance” for on-field use of racial and homophobic slurs to all races and ethnic groups, especially Native Peoples.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that NCAI reaffirms its position in support of the elimination of race-based mascots, logos, symbols, and stereotypes; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI does hereby reaffirm its call for national sports franchises to cease their use of such race-based Native logos, mascots, names, behaviors and practices; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI does hereby call for national sports franchises to cease recruiting Native people to act in ways that undermine the interests of all native children in discontinuing the mascots and practices; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the General Assembly at the 2020 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held Nov 8, 2020 - Nov 13, 2020, with a quorum present.



Fawn Sharp, President

ATTEST:



Juana Majel Dixon, Recording Secretary