RESOLUTION OF THE WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE OF THE FORT APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION

- WHEREAS, between the years 1960 and 1970 the population of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation increased 37.8%, 1.e. from 4,572 to 6,298, and
- WHEREAS, this startling increase in population has caused a minimum 15% heavier loan than any other Area Service Unit, and
- WHEREAS, in Fiscal year 1971 the Whiteriver facility cost was 37.11 per inpatient day and \$7.43 per outpatient visit and in comparison, Keams Canyon cost \$46.55 per inpatient day and \$9.30 per outpatient visit and the Phoenix facility cost \$82.00 per inpatient day and \$16.40 per outpatient visit, and
- WHEREAS, the Indian Health Service averages approximately 150 hospital staff members per 100 hospital beds which is a lower average staffing than the non-governmental hospital average, and
- WHEREAS, Navapache Hospital with 35 beds and 57 staff members has a 163 staff members per 100 beds; Keams Canyon with 38 beds and 59 staff has a 153 staff per 100 beds, and
- WHEREAS, Whiteriver with 52 beds and 59 staff has only 114 staff per 100 beds, and
- WHEREAS, White Mountain Apaches continues to have the highest rate of disease, death, and congenital deformities in the Phoenix Area, and
- WHEREAS, in the Service Unit with the highest death and disease rate there is no way to justify continuing these said inequalities, and
- WHEREAS, the original hospital in Whiteriver was constructed in 1926 and an inpatient wing was built in 1960, and
- WHEREAS, (the original hospital outpatient area and administration) was scheduled to be replaced in 1967 and this has not as yet been done, and
- WHEREAS, a federal study conducted in July, 1970 described the old section of the hospital as "Physically and functionally inadequate in almost every respect and should be replaced.", and
- WHEREAS, the latest study by the Phoenix Area Office qualified the old wing as "Physically and functionally inadequate, a fire hazard and should be replaced.", and
- WHEREAS, because of the lack of space in the new section, patients often sleep in the hallways. There is insufficient space in the labortory and there is not enough storage space which often is a cause of shortage of essential medications and supplies.

- BE IT RESOLVED that the U.S. Indian Health Service is hereby requested to immediately proceed for the construction of a new hospital at Whiteriver, Arizona.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the present hospital and any future employment thereof be staffed at least in the same nationally as that now exists at the Keams Canyon facility.

The foregoing resolution was on November 10, 1971 duly adopted by a vote of 10 for and 0 against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article V, Section 1 (a) of the Amended Constitution and By-Laws of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe June 27, 1958 and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on May 29, 1958, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

Chairman of the Tribal Council

Secretary of the Tribal Council

