

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

- WHEREAS, the Tribal Education Committee of the White Mountain Apache Tribal Council is authorized by the Tribal Council and has the responsibility for overseeing and protecting the educational rights and educational needs of Apache school children in state-run public schools, as well as in Bureau of Indian Affairs and on-reservation private schools, and
- WHEREAS, land held in trust by the federal government comprises of 98% of the total area served by the three-county school districts and this situation seriously limits the ability of the districts to raise funds for public education through local property taxes, and
- WHEREAS, recent congressional and administrative actions with regards to the House Education and Labor Reconciliation Bill proposed a zero level of funding for Impact Aid, P.L. 81-874, and School Construction, maintenance and operation, P.L. 81-815, for Fiscal Year 1982 and subsequent years, and
- WHEREAS, any elimination of funding for school districts, serving children residing on Indian lands reduces the budgets of those school districts by as much as 45% of the total budget, and
- WHEREAS, all public school districts serving Apache students on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation are forced to rely upon the federal government for substantial portion of their operating budget, and
- WHEREAS, the proposed Bills, if passed, will result in three school districts being unable to fully and adequately house their students next year.
- BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby respectfully requests the Congress and the President of the United States to restore fully entitlements under P.L. 81-874 and P.L. 81-815, Section 14 payments because:

1. recipient of these sections have no alternative for raising revenue without a tax base.
2. the Congress and Executive Administrative recognize the significance of the impact aid and school construction programs, as one of several means by which the United States can satisfy the treaty obligation of Indian Tribes.
3. Recommendation of the President's Impact Aid Commission Report be implemented, including reaffirming the basic intent of the P.L. 81-874 (Not payment in lieu of taxes) for the following purpose:

"payment to local school districts, for children in that district, for a problem local in nature."

4. On behalf of the three-school districts located on the White Mountain Apache Indian Reservation located in the State of Arizona, the White Mountain Apache Tribal Council pleads with the Administration and the Congress to continue P.L. 874 program urgently needed by payments for Section A, B, and other categories of children.

The foregoing resolution was on February 05, 1982 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 (i) 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