

APR 15 1983

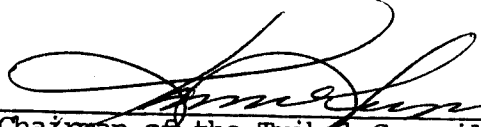
FORT APACHE INDIAN
AGENCY
WHITERIVER APT 7

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

Proposed Division of Gila County

- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has been advised that on May 10, 1983, the voters of Gila County will decide whether or not to divide the counties into two counties; one county would include Payson as the County Seat and would be located north of Route 60 from Roosevelt Lake toward the Salt River Canyon which resides on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation and the lower part of Gila County would encompass Globe and Miami and be south of Route 60; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has never been advised of this proposed action by the Board of Supervisors for Gila County nor consulted or requested to give their opinion as to the impact of such a division of Gila County on the people of the White Mountain Apache Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council concludes that there are unforeseen and foreseeable negative implications with the creation of such a county which would further split the Fort Apache Indian Reservation into four counties instead of the present three counties and would impact on the agricultural ACP distribution funding for the cattle industry and may well place a travel burden upon tribal members who must presently travel to Globe for social services and other county and state functions; and
- WHEREAS, such a division in the county may impact on school aid and highway construction on the reservation and simply result in the creation of two poor counties instead of one county which could best serve the needs of the people of the White Mountain Apache Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has reason to believe that the support for a new county is simply because of the lack of a paved road from Payson to Globe and is not premised on sound economic political and social reasons; and
- WHEREAS, further, the creation of a new county may violate the Voting Rights Act of 1964, and the Tribal Council believes further inquiries should be made reference that point.
- BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby opposes the proposed division of Gila County into two counties, the issue of which is to be decided on May 10, 1983 by an election of the people.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council that it hereby directs the Tribal Attorney to investigate possible violations of the 1964 Voting Rights Act by the creation of the two new counties.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council it directs that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Board of Supervisors for Gila County, the Congressional Delegation and appropriate State Legislators.

The foregoing resolution was on April 7, 1983, 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,f,h,i & u) of the Amended Constitution and Bylaws 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

ACTING: Berta Bones
Secretary of the Tribal Council