

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

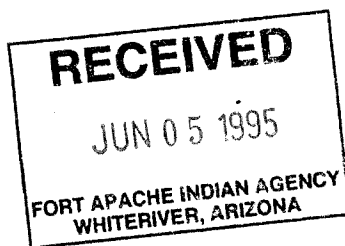
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe believes that the future of the Tribe resides in tribal children who will become the leaders of the future; and
- WHEREAS,** it is important for these future leaders to obtain the best education possible to prepare them for the challenges of tribal leadership in the 21st Century; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council, the Whiteriver Unified School District No. 20, and the Governing Board want to assure that all Indian children attending the district schools participate on an equal basis in the education program; and
- WHEREAS,** the federal government's trust obligation to provide education to Indian children has been fulfilled immeasurably by the Federal Impact Aid Program which provides funds for current operating expenses as a Block Grant from the federal government directly to Public School Districts who are impacted by the trustee's obligation to provide education to Indian children, even when the real property in those school districts is tax exempt because it is held by the federal government; and
- WHEREAS,** Federal Impact Aid compensates for the lost local tax base; and
- WHEREAS,** in recent years appropriations and political support for impact aid have eroded with Congressional cuts of almost \$70 million for FY '95; and
- WHEREAS,** proposed cuts by the administration of another \$109 million from the program for FY '96 and the Republicans' alternative budget proposal to abolish impact aid altogether over the next five years will result in a devastating impact on Indian education; and
- WHEREAS,** it is the view of the White Mountain Apache Tribe and other tribes that Indian education should be re-established as a federal responsibility and priority, that funds cut last year should be restored and that future cuts should be tabled; and
- WHEREAS,** funding for federal impact aid should be defined as a federal entitlement program and treated accordingly; and

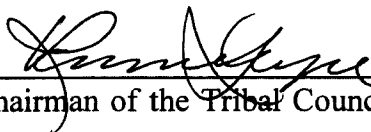
**WHEREAS,** Indian education is a treaty and trust obligation of the United States and was part of the consideration for the White Mountain Apache Tribe to peaceably settle on a remnant of its once vast aboriginal lands and therefore Indian education is a federal right, and legal and moral obligation of the federal government; and

**WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council has reviewed the National Indian Impacted School Association Position paper regarding reviving the Federal Impact Aid Program and is in support of the principles and solutions outlined in the position paper.

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby supports the National Indian Impacted School Association Position paper regarding reviving the Federal Impact Aid Program.

The foregoing resolution was on April 20, 1995 duly adopted by a vote of ten for and zero against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by the White Mountain Apache Tribe Constitution, including Article IV, Section 1 (a), (c), (i), (s), (t) and (u) of the Constitution of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe September 30, 1993, and approved by the Secretary of Interior on November 12, 1993, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).



  
Chairman of the Tribal Council

  
Secretary of the Tribal Council