

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

**WHEREAS,** the White Mountain Apache Tribal Council is entrusted to serve and represent its members; and

**WHEREAS,** the Apache language is the basis of Apache identity and must be protected and preserved at all costs; and

**WHEREAS,** there is a need to have one unified organization to fulfill the purpose of preserving Ndee Biyati'; and

**WHEREAS,** various organizations of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, including Tribal Education, Health Authority Nowike Bagowa and reservation community, have come together for the purpose of preserving Ndee Biyati', the language of the White Mountain Apache people; and

**WHEREAS,** it has been recognized that the White Mountain Apache people, especially the children, are losing the ability to understand and speak their own language at an alarming and accelerating rate; and

**WHEREAS,** the Tribal Education Department with the support of other organizations, coordinated the first Ndee Biyati' Symposium, and has initiated a petition to develop a formal program to preserve the language of the White Mountain Apache.

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the White Mountain Apache people respectfully dedicate spiritual and financial support to develop a unified tribal program addressing the preservation of Ndee Biyati' via curriculum, training, education, full time employment in the areas of management, research, education and community liaisons.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council that the Ndee Biyati' Program be adopted as a unified Tribal entity with formal yearly financial allocation and support.

The foregoing resolution was on February 12, 1998, duly adopted by a vote of nine 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 Tribal Constitution, including Article IV, Section 1 (a), (g), (i) and (k) of the Constitution of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe on September 30, 1993, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on November 12, 1993, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

  
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Chairman of the Tribal Council

  
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Secretary of the Tribal Council