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

- WHEREAS, local economic growth springs from business formation and expansion at the local level and providing new and improved opportunities for small businesses to succeed and expand is a key strategy for improving the economic growth on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and
- WHEREAS, there is a need to create more economic opportunities for tribal member owned small businesses to allow for full participation in the reservation's economic growth and to provide greater support for tribal entrepreneurship which represents the bulk of new job creation and future economic growth within the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and
- WHEREAS, too often these businesses do not have the resources to respond effectively to market opportunities since they may lack access to the capital which might allow them to expand, or the technical expertise that would enable them to make effective business management decisions; and
- WHEREAS, the White Mountain Apache Tribal Planning office and the White Mountain Apache Revolving Credit Program have proposed to create a Tribal Entrepreneurship/Small Business Development Program to provide business development, financial, and technical assistance to the tribal member-owned small business community within the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and
- WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development, Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program provides support to financial intermediaries, such as the White Mountain Apache Revolving Credit Program, to create a Small Business Development Loan Fund to support tribal entrepreneurship.
- BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby authorizes the White Mountain Apache Revolving Credit Program application to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development, Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program in an amount of \$75,000.00 to establish a Small Business Development Loan Fund to support White Mountain Apache tribal entrepreneurship within the Fort Apache Indian Reservation.

The foregoing resolution was on <u>December 20, 2001</u> duly adopted by a vote of <u>SEVEN</u> for and <u>ZERO</u> against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (b), (h), (i), (k), (s), (t), and (u) of the Constitution of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe 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).

ACTING Chairman of the Tribal Council

MacHamey Burnette Secretary of the Tribal Council