



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Urging the Repeal or Amendment of Arizona Revised Statute 36-2985(A) to Protect the Kids Care Program)

- WHEREAS,** The Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation provides, at Article IV, Section 1(a) that the Tribal Council (“Council”) shall exercise the powers “To represent the tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe...”; and
- WHEREAS,** Access to comprehensive, quality health care services is important for promoting and maintaining health, preventing and managing disease, reducing unnecessary disability and premature death, and achieving health equity; and
- WHEREAS,** The uninsured rate for American Indian children in Arizona is sixty-three percent higher than any other racial and ethnic group in the State; and
- WHEREAS,** Almost 15,000 American Indian children are eligible for Arizona’s KidsCare health insurance program, which provides federally-subsidized health insurance benefits at no cost to their families; and
- WHEREAS,** Arizona Revised Statutes 36-2985(A) mandates that the Arizona’s KidsCare health insurance program to be automatically frozen on October 1, 2019, when federal match decreases from one hundred percent to ninety percent; and
- WHEREAS,** The Tribe finds that this statute, unless repealed, will endanger the health and welfare of tens of thousands of Arizona children, including members of the Tribe, and that it’s repeal is in the best interests of the Tribe and its members.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the White Mountain Apache Tribal Council hereby urges the Arizona State legislature and Governor Ducey to repeal or amend A.R.S. 36-2985(A) to protect the rights of vulnerable children to health insurance coverage and to appropriate sufficient state funding to preserve the KidsCare program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event this Resolution directly conflicts with the Tribal Constitution, Tribal Ordinances, or any material facts concerning the issues presented are later found to be false, this Resolution shall be deemed null and void and have no legal effect.

Resolution No. 05-2019-94

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall supersede and govern over the conflicting subject matter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Chairwoman, or in her absence, the Vice-Chairman, is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on MAY 1, 2019 duly adopted by a vote of TEN for, ZERO against, and ZERO abstentions by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it under the enumerated powers listed in Article IV, Section 1 of the WMAT Constitution, so ratified on September 30, 1993, and federally recognized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

	<u>5/1/19</u>		<u>5/6/2019</u>
Gwendena Lee-Gatewood, Chairwoman	Date	Doreen T. Numkena, Tribal Secretary	Date