



# INTER TRIBAL COUNCIL of ARIZONA

ITCA Resolution 0802

**MEMBER TRIBES**

- AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY
- COCOPAH TRIBE
- COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES
- FORT McDOWELL YAVAPAI NATION
- FORT MOJAVE TRIBE
- GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY
- HAVASUPAI TRIBE
- HOPÍ TRIBE
- HUALAPAI TRIBE
- KAIBAB-PAIUTE TRIBE
- PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE
- PUEBLO OF ZUNI
- QUECHAN TRIBE
- SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY
- SAN CARLOS APACHE TRIBE
- TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION
- TONTO APACHE TRIBE
- WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE
- YAVAPAI APACHE NATION
- YAVAPAI PRESCOTT INDIAN TRIBE

## A resolution opposing United States House of Representatives resolution HR 2824 and Supporting the Continued Trust Responsibility of the United States Government to Indian Tribes and Nations

**WHEREAS,** The Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA), an organization of twenty tribal governments in Arizona, provides a forum for tribal governments to advocate for national, regional and specific tribal concerns and to join in united action to address those concerns; and

**WHEREAS,** The member Tribes of the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona have the authority to act to further their collective interests as sovereign tribal governments; and

**WHEREAS,** the member Tribes of ITCA continues to actively participate in the government-to-government relationship with the federal government and advocate for the historical trust responsibility of the United States government to Indian tribes and nations; and

**WHEREAS,** the right to determine membership criteria is one of the inherent attributes of federally recognized Indian tribes and nations which the United States Supreme Court has upheld in the Santa Clara Pueblo v. Martinez decision; and

**WHEREAS,** H.R. 2824 proposes to threaten the right of all Indian tribes to determine their membership criteria for enrolled tribal members and has the potential to misapply a “one-size fits all” application of federal involvement in areas historically recognized through the government-to-government approach; and

**WHEREAS,** such actions undermine the sovereign tribal governmental right to establish criteria for tribal membership and run the risk of sanctions being misapplied to all tribe; and

**WHEREAS,** the United States House of Representative should allow the development of alternative ways to address this issue, including allowing the judicial process to run its course.



**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the member Tribes of the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona hereby oppose H.R. 2824 that serves the self-governance rights of any federally recognized Tribe and diminishes tribal government powers and authorities including the right to establish criteria to determine its membership.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the member Tribes of the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, oppose any legislation that severs the federal trust relationship between the United States Government and any Indian tribes or nations and utilizes any coercive legislative action which proposes to diminish, limit or reduce the trust responsibility of the United States government through services or funding to any Indian tribe or nation.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the member Tribes of the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona authorize the President or Vice President to take actions reasonable and necessary to carry out the intent of this resolution.

### **CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was presented and duly adopted at a meeting of the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona on May 30, 2008, where a quorum was present.



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Shan Lewis,  
Vice-Chairman, Fort Mojave Tribe  
President, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona