

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

- WHEREAS, the Clinton Administration has ordered the Indian Health Service to reduce its Full-time Equivalent (FTE) staffing levels by 1,289 FTEs by FY 1995; and
- WHEREAS, the IHS had 15,418 FTEs in FY 1993, which represented 11.9 percent of the 130,000 FTEs in the entire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS); and
- WHEREAS, the DHHS has been ordered to reduce its total FTEs by 5,200 (-4 percent) by FY 1995, but the IHS has been ordered to reduce IHS FTEs by 8.7 percent, which is inequitable; and
- WHEREAS, the IHS FTE reductions will further reduce the resources for IHS programs which are funded at an average 75 percent level of need; and
- WHEREAS, the directive to achieve 10 percent of the reductions in the GS-14 and GS-15 levels will result in the reduction in the numbers of physicians, dentists and other health professionals available in Indian communities; and
- WHEREAS, the IHS Whiteriver Service Unit was granted fifty FTE positions in 1979, but funding has never been provided for those positions and the hospital has consequently been consistently underfunded since 1979; and
- WHEREAS, a growing population on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation and the Whiteriver Service Unit's obligation to provide medical-hospital services to native americans outside the Fort Apache Indian Reservation has exacerbated the problem of inadequate staffing and funding; and
- WHEREAS, President Clinton's health care reform proposal addresses the role of the Indian Health Service in the new national health care system but President Clinton's budget process will undermine the ability of the IHS and tribal governments to function in the new system; and
- WHEREAS, the Clinton Administration and the Office of Management and Budget appear not to understand the legal and trust obligations of the Indian Health Service to provide health care to Indian tribes and there appears to be a lack of coordination regarding Indian health care policies within the Clinton Administration.

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby calls upon President Clinton and the Office of Management and Budget to recognize the trust role and legal obligations of the Federal government to provide health care to Indian tribes.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council that it requests all tribal governments to call upon President Clinton and the Office of Management and Budget to halt any plans to reduce the IHS budget, FTEs or other resources and instead plan to fund the IHS at 100 percent of need as defined by the Indian Health Care Improvement Act.


The foregoing resolution was on February 10, 1994, 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 Article IV, Section 1 (a) 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).

**RECEIVED**

FEB 18 1994

FORTAPACHE INDIAN AGENCY  
WHITERIVER AGENCY

  
Chairman of the Tribal Council

  
Secretary of the Tribal Council