

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

- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has learned that an amendment offered by Representative J.D. Hayworth has been successful in defeating a proposal by the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee to impose federal income taxes on the commercial revenues of Indian tribes; and
- WHEREAS, the tax proposal, which was an unfair, short-sighted, and unnecessarily punitive reaction against the recent economic successes of a few Indian tribes, was intended to compensate for federal revenue shortfalls arising from an estimated \$135 billion in tax cuts which the legislation would grant to other economic interests; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council applauds the efforts and support of Representative Hayworth, and the other members of the Ways and Means Committee who voted with him to defeat the tax on Indian tribes; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is fully aware the measure could be re-introduced at a later point within the legislative process; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is also watching with great concern the efforts of other legislators to erect new barriers to economic development and self-government within Indian reservations, including measures offered by Representative Istook to open up tribal lands to state taxation; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council realizes that efforts must be taken to inform Congress about the affect of federal tax policy on Indian tribes and to vigorously oppose the reintroduction of proposed taxes on tribal commercial activities; and
- WHEREAS the proposal offered by the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, in seeking to place restraints on Indian enterprise, would 1) abandon the federal government's trust obligations to Indian tribes; 2) undercut recent innovative economic development efforts by tribes; and 3) threaten essential tribal government revenues needed for the most basic social and municipal support services within Indian reservations; and
- WHEREAS, the economic enterprises of the White Mountain Apache Tribe are established to

Resolution No. 06-97-165

promote economic growth for a struggling and historically depressed reservation economy, as well as to provide jobs and bring essential governmental revenue to the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, no commercial venture of the Tribe is undertaken for the personnel benefit or enrichment of any individual, and no per capita payments of any kind are made from the Tribe's commercial revenues; and

WHEREAS, as shown in the attached Fact Sheet, the Tribe's casino, which is one of several enterprises operated by the Tribe, has had a positive impact for the Tribe and surrounding communities, and all such revenues have been dedicated for further development and support of governmental functions and job creation for the benefit of the Tribal community; and

WHEREAS, proposals such as the tax on tribal commercial revenues would undermine the White Mountain Apache Tribe's steady development towards self-sufficiency and self-governance; and

WHEREAS, the federal government collects no tax revenues from any state-owned or operated program or enterprise, including state-owned businesses and state lotteries.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby expresses its gratitude to Representative J.D. Hayworth for his support for tribal economic development and self-governance by defeating the tax on Indian commerce proposed by the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee.

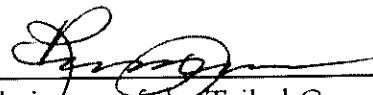
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby expresses its gratitude to other members of the House Ways and Means Committee who voted with Representative Hayworth in opposing the tax measure.

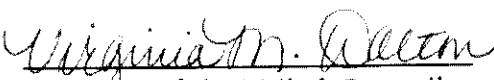
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby expresses its strong opposition to any further attempts to subject tribal governments to federal income tax or to expanded jurisdiction of state taxation, and that it urges its congressional representative to vigorously oppose any such measures.

The foregoing resolution was on June 13, 1997, 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, Sections 1(a), (f), (h), (i), (t) and (u) of the Constitution of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe on September 30, 1993,

Resolution No. 06-97-165

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).


Chairman of the Tribal Council


Secretary of the Tribal Council