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

- WHEREAS, reports from congress indicate that Senator Enzi will soon introduce an amendment to a supplemental appropriations bill in order to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from promulgating regulations for Class III Indian gaming; and
- WHEREAS, Mr. Enzi's amendment would strip authority from the Secretary and permit unchecked power to state governments to impose the restrictions they may desire on Class III Indian gaming; and
- WHEREAS, the proposed amendment would prevent the Secretary from taking appropriate action to resolve a dispute over Indian gaming stemming from the U.S. Supreme Court Seminole decision; and
- WHEREAS, the proposed amendment undermines the bipartisan intent of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act to promote cooperation, and responsible and good faith negotiations between tribes and state governments concerning Indian gaming; and
- WHEREAS, the attempts by Mr. Enzi undermine and disregard orderly legislative procedures by seeking to initiate authorization approval in legislation pertaining to appropriations; and
- WHEREAS, Mr. Enzi's efforts also disregard and undermine the Senate Indian Affairs Committee, which has had no hearing or opportunity to review the proposal, as is the custom on important legislation affecting Indian tribes; and
- WHEREAS, Mr. Enzi's efforts suggest he does not wish to see open debate and deliberate examination of legislation intended to disadvantage the economic development of Indian tribes.
- **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that for the reasons set forth above it opposes the introduction and passage of the Enzi amendment pertaining to Class III regulation of Indian gaming.
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it supports the development of Secretarial procedures to implement Class III gaming regulations as the best method to ensure carefully considered procedures utilizing the

expertise of administrative staff and legislators who are knowledgeable on issues pertaining to Indian tribes and state governments, in order to arrive at a solution which is fair and equitable to all parties involved.

The foregoing resolution was on March 8, 1999 duly adopted by a vote of six 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), (c), (i), (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).

Chairman of the Tribal Council

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