

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

(Supporting the veto of House Bill 2064 relating to English language learners)

- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is empowered to act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribe received a form letter from the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona ("ITCA") directed to Governor Janet Napolitano that urges the Governor to veto House Bill 2064; and
- WHEREAS, House Bill 2064 relates to English Language Learners ("ELL") and it attempts to assist those students with limited English language proficiency by increasing funding for ELL programs, however, according to ITCA's letter, it falls short of this goal for reservation children because the budget request is offset by federal impact aid funding and this means that reservation districts with substantial numbers of English Language Learners will not be eligible for any additional funding; and
- WHEREAS, Arizona's use of impact aid to offset a state obligation to provide education should not be allowed; and
- WHEREAS, House Bill 2064 also places an unrealistic two year limitation on funding for an ELL student and the state's obligations to provide English language programs to ELL students shouldn't be limited by this time limitation; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council finds that it is in the Tribe's best interest to oppose House Bill 2064 as it is currently drafted.
- BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby opposes House Bill 2064 as it is currently drafted and authorizes the Tribal Chairman to take action to effectuate the intent of this Resolution, including but not limited to, drafting a letter to Governor Napolitano supporting the veto of House Bill 2064.

The foregoing resolution was on March 9, 2006, duly adopted by a vote of SIX for and ZERO against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to the authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (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

Secretary of the Tribal Council