



ALL INDIAN PUEBLO COUNCIL  
RESOLUTION NO. 2010-17

**TITLE: In Support of the Rights of Native Americans to Participate in the SBA  
8(a) Program**

*Whereas*, the All Indian Pueblo Council (AIPC) is comprised of 19 Sovereign Pueblos within the State of New Mexico, (Acoma, Cochiti, Isleta, Jemez, Kewa, Laguna, Nambe, Ohkay Owingeh, Picuris, Pojoaque, San Felipe, San Ildefonso, Sandia, Santa Ana, Santa Clara, Taos, Tesuque, Zia, and Zuni) and 1 Sovereign Pueblo in the State of Texas (Ysleta Del Sur); each possessing inherent government authority and sovereignty over their lands; and

*Whereas*, the Federal Government has a unique legal and political relationship with Tribes, Alaska Native Corporations, and Native Hawaiian Organizations, which is recognized in the U.S. Constitution, statutes, and Supreme Court decisions; and

*Whereas*, Congress has a legitimate interest in promoting the economic and political self-sufficiency of Native Americans as a way to fulfill the Government's unique obligations towards Native Americans; and

*Whereas*, providing access to federal contracting opportunities to qualified Native companies provides critical incentives that stimulate economic growth in Native communities, provides economic opportunities for Native American businesses, provides educational scholarships, and encourages entrepreneurs; and

*Whereas*, Congress has held many hearing that seek to address and redress the overwhelming poverty and unemployment experienced by Native Americans both on and off the reservations that arises from their historical relationship with the Federal Government; and

*Whereas*, Native communities suffer from the worst poverty in this country, with unemployment levels up to 75% and, because of the lack of resources, there are few individual entrepreneurs in Native communities; and

*Whereas*, the Federal Government buys over \$500 billion in goods and services annually, and has a statutory goal of awarding at least 23 percent (23%) of its purchases to small and disadvantaged businesses; and

*Whereas*, in hundreds of treaties with Indian tribes across the country, and through the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, the U.S. government committed to provide for the economic betterment of Native Americans and Alaska Natives, the majority of whom

have been stripped of countless millions of acres of their Native lands; and

*Whereas*, one of the most successful federal initiatives has been to include Native Americans (Indian tribes, Alaska Native Corporations and Native Hawaiian Organizations) in the SBA 8(a) Business Development Program; and

*Whereas*, Native American enterprises have struggled to break into the highly concentrated federal contracting marketplace, which is dominated by a handful of large companies, and only recently have some Native American enterprises become successful participants in the 8(a) program; and

*Whereas*, Native American-owned enterprises receive just over one percent (1%) of all federal contract awards compared to the five largest contractors who received twenty percent (20%) of all the contract dollars awarded in 2007; and

*Whereas*, Native American-owned enterprises provide quality performance at cost efficient rates to federal customers, while they return significant benefits back to Native American communities, rendering the Native 8(a) program a rare example of a federal economic program that works; and

*Whereas*, there have been ongoing efforts by some members of Congress to repeal or significantly modify the Native 8(a) program based on biased information, and without consideration of the Federal Government's unique obligations to Native Americans; and

*Whereas*, Native Americans have only recently become successful participants in the 8(a) program and Native communities are just beginning to experience the benefits of the program; and

*Whereas*, The All Indian Pueblo Council recognizes that the participation of Native Americans in the SBA 8(a) program has been an important tool in building a strong Native economy and continues to provide substantial benefits to tribal people and Native Hawaiians; and

*Whereas*, The All Indian Pueblo Council recognizes past contributions of Members of Congress and the Administration to work positively with Native Americans to improve the 8(a) program for all participants and protect the rights of Native Americans in the program; and

*Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved;* that the All Indian Pueblo Council respectfully requests the continued support of Congress to maintain Native American-owned enterprises in the 8(a) program for the benefit of all Native communities located in the United States; and

*Be It Further Resolved;* that the All Indian Pueblo Council does hereby strongly encourage the Small Business Administration to seek ways to promote and expand participation in

the 8(a) program for Native American owned enterprises; and

**Be It Further Resolved That;** the All Indian Pueblo Council does hereby urge the Administration to continue to consult with Native Americans on any changes to the 8(a) program that may affect our businesses and communities pursuant to Executive Order 13175; and

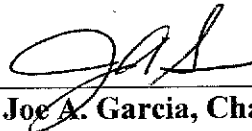
**Be It Further Resolved That;** the All Indian Pueblo Council strongly opposes any Congressional amendments regulatory changes or other means to diminish, alter, denounce, or abolish the current provisions established in the federal procurement system allowing Native Americans to create economic development for the benefit of their respective Native communities; and

**Be It Finally Resolved That;** this resolution shall be the policy of the All Indian Pueblo Council until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

#### CERTIFICATION

I, Chairman of the All Indian Pueblo Council hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 2010-17 was considered and adopted at a duly called council meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup>, day of November 2010, and at which time a quorum was present and the same was approved by a vote of 17 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained and 3 absent.

ALL INDIAN PUEBLO COUNCIL



Joe A. Garcia, Chairman

ATTEST:



Gregory T. Ortiz, Vice Chairman