



**Resolution Supporting Changes to Laws, Regulations, or Administrative Policies  
Necessary to Secure the Continued and Unrestricted Practice of Native American Religions**

**WHEREAS**, the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color (CBAC), organized in 1983, is a coalition created to act as a collective voice for issues of common concern to its member organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, the member organizations of the CBAC are the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), the National Bar Association (NBA), and the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA); and

**WHEREAS**, we, the members of the CBAC recognize our communities' unique cultural and legal issues, and whereas most of our lawyer members are both U.S. citizens and citizens of their respective Tribal nations, we therefore share the communal responsibility, either directly or indirectly, of protecting the governmental sovereignty and freedoms of the more than 560 independent Native American Tribal governments in the United States and their individual members; and

**WHEREAS**, the continued social and cultural survival of Native American peoples is threatened by federal policies and rulings which limit or infringe upon the rights of Indigenous people to practice our traditional religions; and

**WHEREAS**, the policies of the Executive Branch of the United States Government have aspired to accommodate Native American religious practices; and

**WHEREAS**, the Legislative Branch of the United States Government has passed laws aspiring to protect Native American religious practices; and

**WHEREAS**, despite these efforts existing policies and rulings continue to impinge upon the practice of Native American religions including, inter alia:

The desecration, destruction, and encroachment on sacred places throughout the United States, including the San Francisco Peaks;

The lack of or limited legal access to feathers and parts of other species covered under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Endangered Species Act;

The limited availability of traditional Native American religious activities in correctional facilities;

The confiscation or destruction of traditional religious items held by tribal members serving in the U.S. Armed Services; and

**WHEREAS**, the disparity and inconsistency between federal acts and aspirations causes harm and diminishes the ability of Native Americans to exercise and perpetuate their traditional religious practices; and

**WHEREAS**, executive and legislative steps can redress these threats and disparities to the continued social, religious, cultural and political sovereignty of Native Americans.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the CBAC hereby requests and urges all federal agencies and elected officials to support all necessary changes to laws, regulations, or administrative policies necessary to secure the continued and unrestricted practice of Native American religions; and

**THEREFORE BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED**, that the CBAC authorizes the communication of the content of this resolution to members of the U.S. Senate, members of the U.S. House of Representatives, the press, and to others the CBAC deems suitable to receive the information; and

**THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that this resolution shall be the legislative priority of the CBAC until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

**CERTIFICATION**

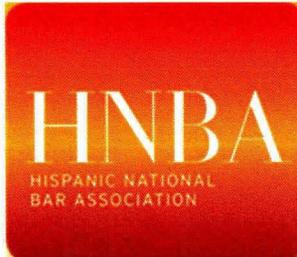
We, the duly elected leadership of the Hispanic National Bar Association, the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, the National Bar Association, and the National Native American Bar Association, hereby certify that this resolution was duly enacted by the CBAC at its annual meeting on the 16th of May 2012.



National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

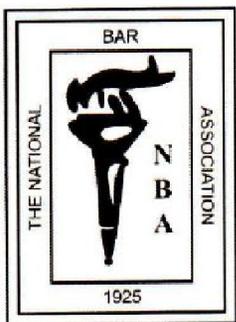
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Wendy C. Shiba'.

Wendy Shiba  
President-Elect, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Peter M. Reyes, Jr.'.

Peter M. Reyes, Jr.  
President-Elect, Hispanic National Bar Association



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Daryl Parks'.

Daryl Parks  
President, National Bar Association



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Patty Ferguson-Bohnee'.

Patty Ferguson-Bohnee  
President, National Native American Bar Association