



SUPPORT FOR ACCEPTANCE OF TRIBAL GOVERNMENTAL ID CARDS FOR ALL OFFICIAL PURPOSES

WHEREAS the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color (CBAC), organized in 1993, 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 Coalition of Bar Associations of Color are the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), the National Bar Association (NBA), and the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA); and

WHEREAS, subsequent to a number of post 9/11 laws (such as the REAL ID Act and the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative), the Help America Vote Act, and *Indiana Democratic Party, et al., v. Todd Rokita, Indiana Secretary of State, et al.*, ID cards have been required for a number of purposes including obtaining Medicare benefits, voting, flying domestically, obtaining a drivers license, and entering federal facilities; and

WHEREAS, a photo identification requirement has a disproportionate impact on poor, minority and tribal communities who do not have equal access to state and federal photo identification documents; and

WHEREAS, tribal citizens have major historical impediments limiting their comfort with registering with state and federal governments for identification, including, but not limited to past governmental efforts at registering or identifying community members had been for the purpose of taking land, relocating a community, or forcefully removing children to boarding schools. These experiences, ingrained in the collective memory of Native communities, are apparent in the ongoing resistance to "register" for a non-Tribal government ID; and

WHEREAS, many Tribal leaders estimate that up to 20% of their Tribal citizens were not born in a traditional hospital setting and do not have access to any other identifying documents than tribal records; and

WHEREAS, Tribal governments bear the same rights and responsibilities as other jurisdictions for accurately identifying their citizens; and

WHEREAS, Tribal governments have extensive processes in place for identifying Tribal citizens, often requiring identity verification for several generations; and

WHEREAS, many Tribal citizens do not have state or federal ID but have Tribal identification; and

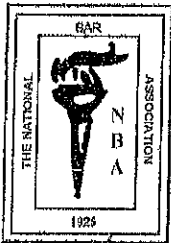
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color does hereby call upon Congress and all States to recognize Tribal governmental identification for all official purposes for which IDs are required, including but not limited to voting and obtaining state drivers licenses.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color does hereby call upon Congress and all Departments within the Administration to recognize Tribal governmental identification for all official purposes for which IDs are required.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATION

WE, the duly-elected Presidents of the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), National Bar Association (NBA), and National Native American Bar Association (NNABA), hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly enacted by a duly-noticed meeting of the Coalition of the Bar Associations of Color Board of Directors.



Victor M. Murguez
President, Hispanic National Bar Association

NNABA
5/15/08
Date

President, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

Date
5/15/08

Vanita M. Borak
President, National Bar Association

Date

HEATHER ANN THOMPSON
President, National Native American Bar Association

5/15/08
Date