



COALITION OF LARGE TRIBES

Blackfeet Nation • Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe • Crow Nation • Eastern Shoshone Tribe
Fort Belknap Indian Community • Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nation • Navajo Nation • Northern Arapaho Tribe
Oglala Sioux Tribe • Rosebud Sioux Tribe • Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux Tribe
Shoshone Bannock Tribes • Spokane Tribe • Ute Indian Tribe

Coalition of Large Tribes (COLT)

Resolution: August-16-2022-Resolution #06-2-22 (NN Twin Arrows)

**Resolution in support of including full and mandatory funding to the Bureau of Indian Affairs
in the President's FY 2024 Budget Request to Congress**

WHEREAS, the Coalition of Large Tribes (COLT) was formally established in early April 2011, and is comprised of Tribes with large land base, including the Blackfeet Nation • Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe • Crow Nation • Eastern Shoshone Tribe • Fort Belknap Indian Community • Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nations • Navajo Nation • Northern Arapaho Tribe • Oglala Sioux Tribe • Rosebud Sioux Tribe • Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux Tribe • Shoshone Bannock Tribes • Spokane Tribe • Ute Indian Tribe and is Chaired by President Kevin Killer, Oglala Sioux Tribe; and

WHEREAS, COLT was organized to provide a unified advocacy base on all issues affecting Tribes that govern large trust land bases and that strive to ensure the most beneficial use of those lands for tribes and individual Indian landowners; and

WHEREAS, Congress has chronically underfunded the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) resulting in insufficient funding for Tribes, including for COLT-member Tribes that rely on programs implemented by the BIA and have vast needs for tribal government resources and services for their citizens ; and

WHEREAS, a cause of the BIA's chronic underfunding is that Congress has not appropriated funding at the true level of need at the BIA and has also subjected BIA's funding to discretionary funding through the annual appropriations process as opposed to mandatory funding; and

WHEREAS, Tribes encounter a substantial lack of clarity on future funding levels that are less than full funding and subject to the discretionary annual appropriations process, which impairs their ability to make long-term plans; and

WHEREAS, mandatory funding is preferable because it avoids the discretionary annual appropriations process and would provide Tribes with clarity on funding levels; and

WHEREAS, mandatory funding for the BIA is in line with the United States carrying out its treaty obligations and trust responsibility to Tribes, and



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WHEREAS, the Biden Administration supports mandatory funding for the Indian Health Service, which is a historic, beneficial shift in the paradigm of Nation-to-Nation relations that seeks to restore the promises made between our ancestors and the United States, and the same interest and rationale for supporting mandatory funding for the Indian Health Service should be applied to mandatory funding for the BIA, and

WHEREAS, the most recent Congressional mark-up of the President's FY 2023 Budget Request grossly underfunds the BIA, as well as the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) (nearly \$100 million short of DOI's Request), leaving areas desperate for attention gutted: Public Safety and Justice (\$148 million short of DOI's Request), human services (\$30 million short of DOI's Request), and language (less than half of DOI Request);

WHEREAS, neither Tribes nor the United States can fulfill their mission of tribal self-determination if Tribal governments have only one quarter or one third of the resources that the Department of the Interior has determined are the minimum needed to maintain the status quo, let alone support Tribal progress;

WHEREAS, the President's next Budget Request to Congress will be for funding for Fiscal Year 2024.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that COLT hereby supports and requests the inclusion of full and mandatory funding for the BIA in the President's FY 2023 Budget Request to Congress; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that COLT requests its Congressional Delegations to support full funding of the BIA and BIE as requested by the Department of the Interior in the President's FY 2023 Budget Request to Congress and to eliminate the current mark-up reductions to those amounts; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that COLT hereby supports the inclusion of full and mandatory funding for the BIA in the President's FY 2024 Budget Request to Congress and requests that President Biden include full and mandatory funding for the BIA in the President's FY2024 and 2025 Budget Requests to Congress; and

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



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CERTIFICATION

This resolution was enacted at a duly called meeting of the Coalition of Large Tribes held on the Navajo Nation, Twin Arrows Casino, 22181 Resort Blvd. Flagstaff, AZ on August 16th, 2022, at which a quorum was present, with the resolution approved unanimously.

Dated this August 16th, 2022

Attest:

Nathan Small, Secretary, Coalition of Large Tribes

Kevin Killer, Chairman, Coalition of Large Tribes