

NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN AIDS PREVENTION CENTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Senate Resolution Designates March 20, 2008, as “Second Annual National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day”

March 12, 2008 - Denver, CO - The United States 110th Congress passed Senate Resolution 479 designating March 20, 2008 as “Second Annual National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day”.

The resolution was introduced and passed immediately in the Senate yesterday, March 11, 2008.

“A special thanks goes to U.S. Senator Murkowski (R-AK), Senator Tester (D-MT), Senator Smith (R-OR), and Senator Baucus (D-MT) who introduced this resolution,” stated Warren Jimenez (Chumash, Coastal Band), Executive Director of NNAAPC. “This resolution will continue to raise awareness with policy makers that HIV in our Native communities is a real issue.”

The resolution also recognizes the serious spread of HIV/AIDS in American Indian and Alaska Native communities and calls for more coordinated efforts between federal, state and tribal governments to further the reduction of this disease in these communities.

To view a copy of the Senate Resolution 479, please visit: www.nnaapc.org.

About NNHAAD

The four seasons are highly respected in many cultures because they so closely represent the cycle of life. Spring represents a time of equality and balance. It is a time of profound change, new beginnings and birth. For these reasons, spring was chosen as the time to hold the National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. Every ethnic and racial group in America has been affected by HIV/AIDS, but individual experiences, impacts, responses, and the legacy of the disease are distinctively different. This day is a day that brings national attention to the plight of Native communities and their struggles against the epidemic. We hope this date will raise awareness of HIV/AIDS among Native people-Native Americans, Native Alaskans, and Native Hawaiians. Protect our future! Protect our people! Celebrate life!

About NNAAPC

The National Native American AIDS Prevention Center (NNAAPC), located in Denver, CO, is a non-profit organization founded in 1987 to address the impact of HIV/AIDS on American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians through culturally appropriate advocacy, research, education, and policy development in support of healthy Indigenous people. NNAAPC provides capacity building assistance to tribal and urban health organizations and communities, community-based organizations serving Native people, and agencies that administer federal HIV/AIDS policy. Over the last 20 years, NNAAPC has conducted work in community mobilization, training and technical assistance in HIV/AIDS prevention, intervention and case management, communications and media development, outreach and recruitment, developing technologies with HIV applications, and forging a policy agenda that ensures the inclusion of Native people. NNAAPC is the only national HIV/AIDS-specific Native organization in the United States.

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