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The National Congress of American Indians of Gratitude and Call to Action

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On Friday, March 27, 2020, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) announced the passage and signing of H.R. 748, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. This bill includes \$10 billion in funding set-asides for tribal nations. Advocates from across Indian Country worked tirelessly to ensure that the bill included these and other resources to enable tribal nations and communities to respond to and recover from the effects of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

NCAI expresses its sincere gratitude for the tireless efforts of our tribal partners and our Congressional champions on both sides of the aisle for ensuring Indian Country was included in the CARES Act. We look forward to our continued work with the Administration and both chambers of Congress to ensure tribal nations have the resources they need to protect their communities in the face of this pandemic. We would also like to thank all of the healthcare and service workers who are on the frontlines in response to COVID-19, especially those working in tribal clinics and Native communities.

Indian Country has long been greatly underfunded and during this current pandemic our tribal nations are feeling the impact. The resources in the CARES Act are welcome relief, but our work is not done. Now, more than ever, we call on all of our champions in the House, Senate, and Administration to uphold the federal treaty and trust obligations to tribal nations by ensuring legislation and federal policy provides ample resources and flexibility to Indian Country as soon as possible so that all can work to provide for the health, safety, and well-being of our communities.

To learn more about NCAI's current efforts and the latest news and information around the COVID-19 pandemic, please visit www.ncai.org/covid-19.

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Founded in 1944, the National Congress of American Indians is the oldest, largest and most representative American Indian and Alaska Native organization in the country. NCAI advocates on behalf of tribal governments and communities, promoting strong tribal-federal government-to-government policies, and promoting a better

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