RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE GEN “I” STATE CHALLENGE TO SUPPORT NATIVE YOUTH

WHEREAS, President Obama and the leaders of state governments understand that what happens to the approximately 1.9 million American Indians and Alaska Natives in more than 30 states covering every region of the country is critically important to the future of the United States; and

WHEREAS, President Obama recently launched his new Generation Indigenous Initiative (Gen-I); and

WHEREAS, the Gen-I initiative is meant to break down barriers standing between Native youth and their opportunity to succeed; and

WHEREAS, the goal of this challenge is to encourage states across the country to meaningfully consult and partner with tribal governments and work with urban Indian organizations to improve the lives of Native youth; and

WHEREAS, these increased efforts will improve the lives of future generations of Native youth as well as strengthen state–tribal relationships through the collaboration of policy agendas and sharing of best practices;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the National Lieutenant Governors Association hereby encourages its members to take the challenge, and reach out and partner with tribal leaders in their state, as well as urban institutions and organizations, to plan and convene a dialog on current initiatives, challenges and areas the partnership can collaborate on to improve the lives of Native youth and their systems of support.

Primary Sponsors: Lt. Governor Angela Melean, MT; Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann, IN