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RESOLUTION  
OF THE  
PAPAGO COUNCIL

RES. NO. 1358

WHEREAS, in recent years there have been several offers made to lease land in the Papago Reservations for farming, industrial and community development purposes and in each and every case consideration has been given to the maximum time period of the proposed lease, and

WHEREAS, under present regulations the Papago Tribe may only lease for a period of not more 25 years, with an option to renew for an additional period of 25 years, and

WHEREAS, The prospective lessees in all of the past offers have indicated that a period of 25 or 50 years, at the most, is not sufficiently long to enable the prospective lessee to make a reasonable profit on his original investment, and

WHEREAS, statistics have proven that a period of not less than 55 years is needed in order to enable a lessee to make such reasonable profit on his investment and the absence of a sufficiently long leasing period has been vividly portrayed recently in the offer of a prospective lessee to build a community development in the San Xavier District on the San Xavier Reservation, and

WHEREAS, the members of the Papago Council have become convinced that a leasing period must be granted which is longer than that allowed under present regulations, and that a lease with a 99-year leasing period would be most acceptable to prospective lessees of the Tribe, and

WHEREAS, the San Xavier District Council has passed a Resolution requesting and urging that the Tribe be authorized and empowered to enter into 99-year leases of property on the Reservations.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Papago Council hereby requests and urges that the Papago Tribe be authorized and empowered to enter into lease agreements covering property on the Papago, San Xavier and Gila Bend Reservations for a period up to and not exceeding 99 years in duration.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Papago Council, on behalf of the Papago Tribe, respectfully requests of the Congress of the United States that adequate and suitable legislation be enacted in order to empower the Tribe to enter into lease agreements for a period up to and not exceeding 99 years, and that copies of the within Resolution be forwarded to proper members of the Congress of the United States, urging their support and co-operation in the enactment of such legislation.