

RESOLUTION NO. 2007 - 46
**IN SUPPORT OF U.S. HOUSE RESOLUTION 764, THE "SAGUARO
NATIONAL PARK EXPANSION AND STUDY ACT OF 2007"**

WHEREAS, the residents of Pima County have embraced the conservation of certain critical lands for their wildlife habitat and recreational values, recognized in the landmark Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan, and

WHEREAS, ongoing population growth in Pima County and southern Arizona is creating increasing demands for open space, natural areas and places for recreation in the form of permanently protected wild areas, and

WHEREAS, ecotourism has become a key element of Pima County's economy and places such as Saguaro National Park attract tens of thousands of tourists from all over the globe, and

WHEREAS, Congressman Raúl M. Grijalva and Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords have introduced HR 764 to expand Saguaro National Park by 583 acres, and

WHEREAS, this expansion would further the goals of the Sonoran Desert Protection Plan by protecting 283 acres adjacent to the park's East Unit, including three miles of Rincon Creek and some significant washes, and by protecting 300 acres of land adjacent to the park's West Unit, studded with magnificent saguaro cacti, and

WHEREAS, Rincon Creek boasts the only riparian woodlands in the park, where gray hawks, yellow-billed cuckoos, giant spotted whiptail lizards and lowland leopard frogs can be found, and the West Unit addition is habitat for the very rare and unique Cactus Ferruginous Pygmy Owl,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Pima County Board of Supervisors calls upon the U.S. Congress to approve HR 764 for the people of this county and its many visitors.

Passed by the Board of Supervisors of Pima County, this 6th day of March, 2007.



Chairman, Pima County Board of Supervisors

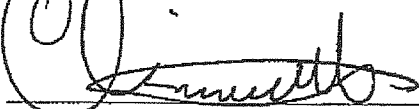
MAR 06 2007

ATTEST:



Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Deputy County Attorney