



## Association of American State Geologists

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### **Resolution Endorsing the *Imagery for the Nation* Proposal**

WHEREAS, the *Imagery for the Nation* (IFTN) proposal would develop a sustainable and flexible digital imagery program that meets the needs of local, state, regional, tribal and federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, the National Digital Orthophoto Program Committee (NDOP), the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) and the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) have been working together on this proposal to restructure the nationwide aerial imagery programs that will collect and disseminate standardized multi-resolution products on "set" schedules; and

WHEREAS, local, state, regional, tribal and federal partners will be able to exercise "buy-up" options for enhancements that are required by their organizations; and

WHEREAS, the imagery acquired through this program will remain in the public domain and archived to secure its availability for posterity; and

WHEREAS, aerial and satellite imagery, in the form of digital orthoimagery, is the foundation for most public and private Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and is an essential commodity that is being developed by hundreds of different entities across the Nation leading to higher costs, varying quality, duplication of effort and a patchwork of products; and

WHEREAS, the state geological surveys and the member state geologists of the Association of American State Geologists (AASG) can benefit greatly from the data resources that will be provided by IFTN in various geoscience-related applications, including geologic mapping, natural resource investigations and assessments, hydrogeologic studies, delineation of geologic hazards and many others; and

WHEREAS, large-area-contracting methods are expected to lower the cost to the taxpayer and improve the availability of standardized, high-quality products; and

WHEREAS, AASG believe this proposal will greatly benefit Association members:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: the AASG on this Seventh day of June 2006 in Santa Fe, New Mexico, affirms its strong support for the *Imagery for the Nation* concept, as envisioned by NSGIC, NDOP and FGDC; offers AASG assistance in further development of the program concept, as appropriate and needed; encourages others at various levels of government, including federal agencies and entities, to support the development and implementation of the program; and urges the Executive and Legislative branches of the Government of the United States of America to provide the necessary resources to implement this important and beneficial program.