



**2017 Mid-Year Convention  
Portland, Oregon**

**RESOLUTION #17 - 33**

**“SUPPORT FOR REAUTHORIZATION OF THE SPECIAL  
DIABETES PROGRAM FOR INDIANS”**

**PREAMBLE**

We, the members of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants rights secured under Indian Treaties, Executive Orders, and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and constitution of the United States and several states, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise to promote the welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) are representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and specific tribal concerns; and

**WHEREAS**, ATNI is a regional organization comprised of American Indians/Alaska Natives (AI/AN) and tribes in the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Nevada, Northern California, and Alaska; and

**WHEREAS**, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of the ATNI; and

**WHEREAS**, AI/AN adults are 2.3 times more likely to have diagnosed diabetes compared with non-Hispanic whites; and

**WHEREAS**, the death rate due to diabetes for AI/ANs is 1.6 times higher than the general U.S. population; and

**WHEREAS**, the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 established the Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI) for “the prevention and treatment of diabetes in American Indians and Alaska Natives for five years; and

**WHEREAS**, Congress reauthorized SDPI for one to three year periods from 2002 to 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, the current renewal of SDPI expires in September, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, SDPI provides grants for diabetes treatment and prevention services to over 330 IHS, Tribal, and Urban Indian health programs in 35 states and funds Community Directed Grant Programs; and

**WHEREAS**, SDPI has had positive clinical and community outcomes, including: the average blood sugar level (A1c) decreased from 9.0% in 1996 to 8.1% in 2010; the average LDL (“bad” cholesterol) declined from 118 mg/dL in 1998 to 95 mg/dL in 2010; and more than 80% of SDPI grant programs now use recommended public health strategies to provide diabetes prevention activities and services for AI/AN children and youth; and

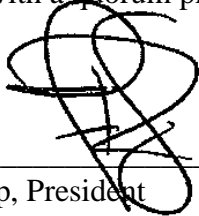
**WHEREAS**, Tribes in the Northwest have successful SDPI programs with consistent positive clinical and community outcomes; and

**WHEREAS**, Northwest Tribes support permanent reauthorization of SDPI at \$200 million per year with medical inflation rate increases annually or, in the alternative, reauthorization of SDPI for 2018 to 2024 at \$150 million in 2018 with medical inflation rate increases annually thereafter; now

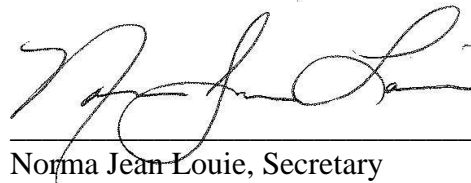
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that ATNI supports permanent reauthorization of SDPI at \$200 million per year with medical inflation rate increases annually or, in the alternative, reauthorization of SDPI for 2018 to 2024 at \$150 million per year in 2018 with medical inflation rate increases annually thereafter.

### **CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2017 Mid-Year Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Double Tree by Hilton - Portland, Oregon, on May 23-26, 2017, with a quorum present.



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Fawn Sharp, President



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Norma Jean Louie, Secretary