



2017 Winter Convention Grand Mound, WA

RESOLUTION #17 - 18

“SUPPORTING THE CREATION OF AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR NATIVE AMERICAN PROGRAMS AT THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET”

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 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, White House and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) budgets and policies must ensure stable sources of funding for tribal governments so that tribal citizens receive equitable services in the same manner that is found in other jurisdictions throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, adequate funding for programs that foster self-determination and promote utilization of trust resources and economic development are critical for rebuilding the infrastructure and capacities of tribal communities that have been neglected for many decades; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Civil Rights Commission has documented the systemic underfunding of tribal governments and tribal communities in the study, "A Quiet Crisis: Federal Funding and Unmet Needs in Indian Country;" and

WHEREAS, the OMB is primarily responsible for setting budget targets for federal agencies to adhere to and otherwise formulating the details of the federal budget; and

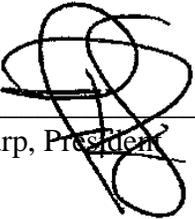
WHEREAS, despite the central role that OMB serves in the federal budget process, there have been few Indian people or individuals with specialized expertise with Indian programs that have worked for that Office; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI urges the Trump Administration to establish an office of the Assistant Director for Native American Programs, or other appropriate position(s), that would have responsibility for not only Indian programs but also those components of other federal programs for which Indians are eligible; and

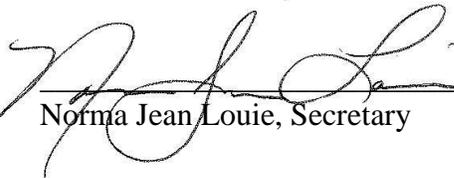
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the federal budget review process be reorganized to ensure that OMB budgets and policies provide stable sources of funding for tribal governments so that tribal citizens receive equitable services in the same manner that is found in other jurisdictions throughout the United States.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2017 Winter Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at Great Wolf Lodge in Grand Mound, Washington, January 23-26, 2017, with a quorum present.



Fawn Sharp, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary