



## **2019 Mid-Year Convention Airway Heights, Washington**

### **RESOLUTION #19 - 39**

#### **“SUPPORT OF MISSING & MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN DOCUMENTARY”**

#### **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**, missing and murdered Indigenous women is a crisis that plagues our communities, erodes our family units; and

**WHEREAS**, over 175 tribal, state, regional, and national organizations have joined with the National Indigenous Women’s Resource Center in support of the resolution to create a National Day of Awareness for Missing Native Women and Girls; and

**WHEREAS**, 5,712 was the number of known incidents of missing and murdered Native American women in 2016, only 116 cases were entered into the DOJ database; and

**WHEREAS**, 84% of Native women have experienced violence in their lifetime; and

**WHEREAS**, Native American women from reservations are murdered at a rate of 10 times the national average; and

**WHEREAS**, U.S. attorneys declined to prosecute Native community matters involving sexual abuse cases at a rate of 67% between 2005-2009; and

**WHEREAS**, the number of sexual assaults against Native women were committed by non-native at a rate of 96% on some reservations; now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that ATNI hereby supports the resolution in support of any and all efforts documenting the Missing and Murdered Indigenous crisis through film; and

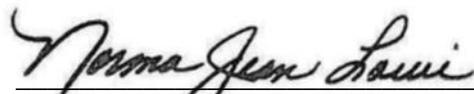
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that ATNI hereby supports the resolution in support of any and all efforts to change legislation and rapid response protocols when an Indigenous woman goes missing.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2019 Mid-Year Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at Northern Quest Resort and Casino, Airway Heights, Washington on May 20-23, 2019, with a quorum present.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary