RESOLUTION #2020 - 17

“THE ONSET OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
URGE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO INVOKES THE DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT”

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, the northwest has experienced the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, and have identified hot spots in the Pacific Northwest that are currently some of the most severe in the nation, and;
WHEREAS, all states have identified positive cases, and medical experts anticipate the number of cases to continue to increase; and

WHEREAS, medical facilities and healthcare staffs have become overwhelmed with treating and testing the number of patients affected by the contagious disease, and, due to the high demand for supplies and equipment, facilities are now experiencing severe shortages; and

WHEREAS, local, state and federal stockpiles of supplies and equipment are being depleted, and, medical personnel, first responders and at-risk populations face increased risk of contracting the disease; and

WHEREAS, personnel and first responders, are in desperate need of supplies such as, but not limited to, face shields, gowns, and N95 masks and lab facilities are in desperate need of lab equipment such as, but not limited to, vials, petri dishes and testing medium; and

WHEREAS, to date the President has invoked the Defense Production Act for the production of respirators only; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, ATNI urges President Trump to invoke the Defense Production Act for the mobilization of materials, resources and manufacturing sites needed to combat the spread of COVID-19 as a rapidly evolving threat to our nation’s economic and national security.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by a quorum of the ATNI Executive Board on April 1, 2020, by e-mail.

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Leonard Forsman, President       Norma Jean Louie, Secretary