



2020 Virtual Annual Convention

RESOLUTION #2020 – 43

“REINSTATEMENT OF FUNDING FOR WASHINGTON STATE PATROL TRIBAL LIAISON FOR EASTERN WASHINGTON”

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, there are thousands of deaths and disappearances of Native women, female identifying, transgender, and males who vanish from tribal lands, rural communities and cities with no official accounting; and

WHEREAS, since November 2019 there have been more than 353 new cases of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in Washington State alone with Spokane, leading the nation; and

WHEREAS, there are also still thousands of cold cases in Washington that need to be investigated; and

WHEREAS, last year Washington State approved funding for two positions as tribal liaisons to assist the Washington State Patrol and Washington Tribes in investigating Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, female identifying, transgender, and male both current and cold cases in Eastern and Western Washington; and


WHEREAS, with the onset of COVID-19, the funding for the Eastern Washington position was eliminated; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI does hereby; and fully endorse and support the reinstatement of funding for the Washington State Patrol, Tribal Liaison for Eastern Washington.


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI does hereby request Governor Inslee and the Washington State Legislature to reinstate the Eastern Washington liaison position.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2020 Virtual Annual Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, Portland, Oregon, on October 5 – 8, 2020, with a quorum present.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary