



2021 Virtual Mid-Year Convention

RESOLUTION #2021 – 16

“DEMAND FOR TRANSPARENT FUNDING FOR AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKAN NATIVE STUDENTS AT STATE UNIVERSITIES”

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 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 ATNI; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Minority Affairs and Diversity earmarks \$30,000 for the annual First Nations at the University of Washington Spring Powwow; and

WHEREAS, those funds are absorbed by the Office of Minority Affairs and Diversity when that event is not held; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Minority Affairs and Diversity as well as the University of Washington fails to be transparent about how funds earmarked for American Indians/Alaskan Natives students are redirected to promote the recruitment, outreach, and retention of these

communities; and

WHEREAS, State Universities have an obligation to be transparent with American Indian/Alaskan Native students concerning funding earmarked for American Indian/Alaskan Native students; now


THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI encourages State Universities to publish an annual report documenting funding for American Indian/Alaskan Native recruitment, outreach, and retention efforts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all State Universities share their annual report at the Tribal Leadership Summit to inform decision making; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that State Universities engage in dialogue with the American Indian/Alaskan Native student community to make decisions about earmarked funding that must be redirected.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2021 Virtual Mid-Year Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, Portland, Oregon, on May 24 – May 27, 2021, with a quorum present.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary