



2022 Annual Convention Tulalip, Washington

RESOLUTION #2022 - 45

“Support of Reproductive Rights of American Indian and Alaska Native People ”

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, AI/AN people are more likely to experience a pregnancy-related death than non-Hispanic white, 29.7 AI/AN pregnancy-related deaths per 100,000 live births compared to 16.7 for general population or 12.7 for white; and

WHEREAS, on June 24, 2022, the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) issued its decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* overturning *Roe v. Wade*, which

prohibited states from restricting access to abortion services as it was a fundamental right protected by the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS, with the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*, AI/AN people now face an alarming public health emergency without guaranteed rights to healthcare; and

WHEREAS, ATNI recognizes the fundamental right of all people to sexual health and reproductive autonomy; and

WHEREAS, ATNI recognizes that, despite the progress that has been made nationwide improving comprehensive reproductive health (including access to contraception, family planning services and prenatal care, and abortion services), significant disparities continue to exist for AI/AN who do not have equal access to comprehensive reproductive health services; and

WHEREAS, ATNI supports the delivery of high-quality, culturally-tailored comprehensive reproductive and sexual health services, including access to contraception, family planning, prenatal care, abortion services, maternal and child health (MCH), and prevention of sexual violence; now

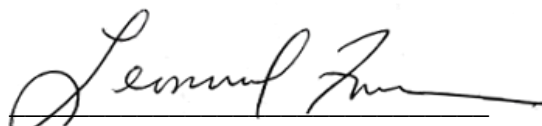
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI endorses the fundamental right of AI/AN people to access comprehensive reproductive and sexual health services, including access to contraception, family planning, prenatal care, abortion services, maternal and child health (MCH), and prevention of sexual violence; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI promotes the sovereignty of Tribal Nations to determine access to comprehensive reproductive and sexual health services within their own territories and hereby declares that no state law restricting or criminalizing such services shall have the force of law within Tribal jurisdiction; and

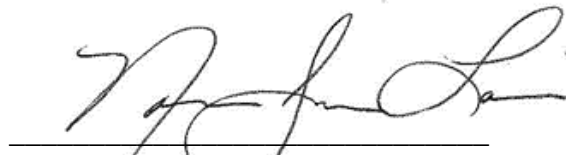
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that ATNI calls on the states and the federal government to protect AI/ANs fundamental rights to sexual health and reproductive autonomy.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2022 Annual Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, at Tulalip Resort Casino, Tulalip, Washington, on September 18-22, 2022, with a quorum present.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary