



## **2023 Midyear Convention Worley, Idaho**

### **RESOLUTION #23 – 24**

### **“In Support of Culturally Specific Technical Assistance and Financial Education Programs for American Indian and Alaska Native Communities”**

#### **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 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 the 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**, after 250 years of systematic disenfranchisement of American Indian and Alaska Native People (AI/AN) has led to a wealth disparity between AI/AN people and their non-Native counterparts; and

**WHEREAS**, Federal, State, and local governments have all profited from the lands and resources that were forcibly removed from Native Stewardship; and

**WHEREAS**, AI/AN people have the right to equitable economic development; and

**WHEREAS**, generations of wealth and economic development were stolen by colonial forces and the United States Government; and

**WHEREAS**, federal, state, and local governments have systematically disadvantaged Tribes, and Native People with the intent to eliminate the ability of AI/AN people to participate in American economic development; and

**WHEREAS**, federal, state, and local governments have the responsibility to ensure that all of their citizens have the right to equitable life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; now

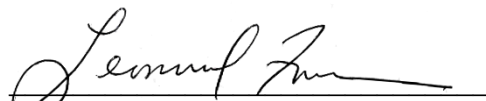
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that ATNI member tribes support and encourage the development of culturally specific economic development fully funded program(s) of technical assistance and financial education to be coordinated and facilitated by culturally specific organizations and their contracted agencies and companies; and

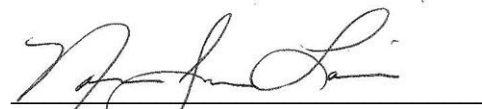
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that ATNI discourages continued divestment from programs that intend to repair the wealth disparity between AI/AN people and their non-Native counterparts; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that ATNI encourages all federal, state, and local governments to invest in AI/AN businesses by increasing funding for grants, educational programming, and technical assistance at all levels of government directed to AI/AN communities.

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2023 Midyear Conference of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Coeur D'Alene Casino Resort - Hotel - Worley, Idaho, on May 8-11th, 2023, with a quorum present

  
Leonard Forsman, President

  
Norma Jean Louie, Secretary