



2023 Annual Convention Grand Mound, WA

RESOLUTION #2023 – 42

“SUPPORT TO FULLY FUND IMPACT AID PROGRAM”

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, through its unique relationship with Native nations and tribes, the federal government has established programs and resources to meet the educational needs of American Indians and Alaska Natives, residing on and off their reserved or non-reserved homelands; and

WHEREAS, the United States has made solemn promises to Native nations to provide education for Native students in exchange for millions of acres of land for more than two centuries; and

WHEREAS, tribal and federal lands are not taxable, severely limiting funding for public schools on and near reservation areas; and

WHEREAS, Congress established the Impact Aid program in 1950, which provided public school districts federal financial support to make up for lost revenue from lack of local property taxes; and

WHEREAS, Impact Aid has not been fully funded since 1969, which severely underfunds Native Education for Indian and Federal Land Children; and

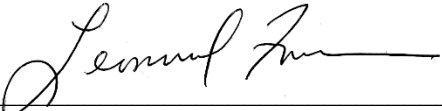
WHEREAS, to highlight a case during the 2021-23 school years, the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation in consultation with three federally impacted public school districts on the Yakama reservation were underfunded by \$20,000,000; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI does hereby support fully funding the Impact Aid Program under the U.S. Department of Education, consistent with government-to-government relations and Indian Policies and Procedures; and

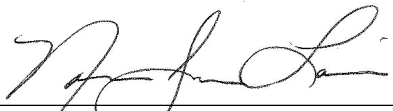
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution shall be the policy of ATNI and until the Impact Aid Program is fully funded.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2023 Annual Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, Great Wolf Lodge, Grand Mound, Washington on September 18 - 21, 2023, with a quorum approving.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary