

# 2024 Midyear Convention Canyonville, Oregon

## RESOLUTION #24 – 15

# "SUPPORTING TRIBAL ENGAGEMENT AND CLIMATE ACTION IN OREGON: ENDORSEMENT OF THE OREGON CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION'S TRIBAL ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY IN ALIGNMENT WITH OREGON HOUSE BILL 3409 PRIORITIES"

# **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, Oregon House Bill 3409 (HB3409) represents a significant advancement in the state's climate resilience strategy, emphasizing the role of natural and working lands in carbon sequestration and offering new opportunities for tribal nations to engage in climate-positive land management practices; and

WHEREAS, key provisions for resources, governance, and technical assistance within HB3409 requires a thoughtful and intentional Tribal Engagement Strategy for the Oregon Climate Action Commission (OCAC), and has to ensure meaningful consultation and collaboration with Oregon's federally recognized Tribes in climate action efforts, recognizing the vital role of Tribes as traditional stewards of the land; and

**WHEREAS**, the OCAC's Tribal Engagement Strategy outlines a comprehensive approach to building trust, collaboration, and mutual respect with Tribal nations, focusing on respectful, inclusive, and reparative engagement that acknowledges Tribes' historical, cultural, and political significance; and

**WHEREAS,** the alignment of the OCAC's Tribal Engagement Strategy with the policy priorities of Oregon House Bill 3409 is essential for the success of climate action efforts in Oregon, ensuring that Tribal knowledge, rights, and priorities are central to the state's climate resilience planning; now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that ATNI formally supports the Tribal Engagement Strategy developed for the Oregon Climate Action Commission, recognizing it as a critical step towards inclusive and effective climate action in Oregon; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that ATNI encourages the OCAC and relevant state agencies to closely collaborate with Tribal nations in implementing the provisions of Oregon House Bill 3409, ensuring equitable access to funding, technical assistance, and decision-making processes; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED,** that this resolution shall be the policy of ATNI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

## **CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2024 Midyear Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Seven Feathers Casino in Canyonville, OR, May 19 – May 23, 2024, with a quorum present.

Leonard Forsman, President

Norma Jean-Louie, Secretary