



**2024 Annual Convention
Ridgefield, Washington**

RESOLUTION #2024 – 53

**“ALIGNING TRIBAL BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM
(TBCP) AND BROADBAND EQUITY, ACCESS, AND DEPLOYMENT
(BEAD) PROGRAM INCOME POLICIES”**

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 natural, 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 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) provides funding through various broadband programs, including the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program (TBCP) and the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program, to address the need for broadband deployment and access across underserved and unserved communities; and

WHEREAS, both programs are administered under the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to promote the expansion and accessibility of highspeed internet infrastructure, with a particular emphasis on Tribal Nations for the TBCP; and

WHEREAS, the BEAD program allows subgrantees to retain earned program income without restriction, giving them flexibility in using revenue generated through BEAD-funded projects; and


WHEREAS, Tribal awardees under the TBCP must reinvest earned program income into broadband maintenance, expansion, or upgrades within their communities, subject to restrictive programmatic rules; and

WHEREAS, the Assistant Secretary of the NTIA has the discretion to modify these rules, which could provide needed financial flexibility to Tribal entities participating in the TBCP; now


THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI requests the NTIA issue guidance to harmonize the treatment of earned program income across the TBCP and BEAD programs, allowing Tribal awardees under the TBCP to retain earned income similarly to BEAD subgrantees.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2024 Annual Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of the Northwest Indians, held at ilani Casino Resort, Ridgefield, Washington on September 29 – October 3, 2024 with a quorum present.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary