



**2026 Midyear Convention  
Ferndale, Washington**

**RESOLUTION # 2026 – 022**

**“PROTECT AND INCREASE FISCAL YEAR 2027 SANITATION  
FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION FUNDING IN THE INDIAN HEALTH  
SERVICE BUDGET”**

**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 Northwest Indians (ATNI) are the representatives and advocates for national, regional, and specific Tribal concerns; and

**WHEREAS**, ATNI is a regional organization comprised of American Indians/Alaska Natives and Indian Tribal governments 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 federal government maintains a trust and treaty responsibility to provide health care to American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) people through the Indian Health Service (IHS) and through federal obligations arising from Tribal sovereignty and treaties; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States fulfills its part of its trust responsibility and treaty obligations to provide health care to AI/AN people through IHS; and

**WHEREAS**, appropriations for the IHS budget have been chronically underfunded annually, impacting the health care status of AI/AN people; and

**WHEREAS**, the President's Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Proposed Budget for IHS reduces funding for Sanitation Facilities Construction (SFC) to \$13,998,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the IHS Facilities Appropriations Advisory Board stated in a November 2025 letter to IHS that the known level of ongoing water and sanitation need in Tribal Nations exceeds \$5.9 billion nationally; and

**WHEREAS**, the known level of need for existing water and sanitation projects in the IHS Portland Area is estimated at \$125,000,000 for projects on the November 2025 Sanitation Deficiencies System (SDS) list, with an estimated additional \$21,000,000 for new and like-new Tribal housing; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a known need for housing in Tribal communities in the IHS Portland Area, and over 11,500 eligible homes are included on the current list of SDS projects in need of SFC funding; and

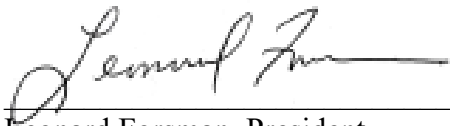
**WHEREAS**, the IHS Portland Area Tribes are requesting that SFC funding shall be fully allocated to Tribal projects; now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that ATNI calls on Congress to provide funding for the Indian Health Service Sanitation Facilities Construction budget line item of at least \$1.1 billion, in alignment with the National Tribal Budget Formulation Workgroup, or in an amount that fully meets the needs as determined by Tribal Nations; and

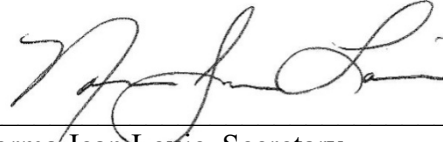
**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that this will be the policy of ATNI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution(s).

### **CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing Resolution was adopted at the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians 2026 Midyear Convention held at the Silver Reef Casino Resort in Ferndale, Washington, on May 17-21, 2026, with a quorum present.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary