



Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians

2007 Winter Conference Portland, Oregon

RESOLUTION #07 - 03

"SUPPORT INCREASED BUDGET FOR THE FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBES EXTENSION PROGRAM (FRTEP)"

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 representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and specific tribal concerns; and

WHEREAS, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians is a regional organization comprised of American Indians 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 Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians; and

WHEREAS, the Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program (FRTEP) was authorized by the 1990 Farm Bill (Section 1677, P.L. 101-624), and directed that the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Extension Service (Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service or CSREES), shall establish extension education programs on Indian reservations and tribal jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, there are 57 Northwest tribal governments from Oregon, Idaho, Washington, Southeast Alaska, Northern California and Western Montana represented by ATNI and are being served by only 7 Extension Educators (OR - 1, ID - 2, WA - 1, AK - 1, and W. MT - 2); and

WHEREAS, although the enabling legislation authorized "such sums as may be necessary" in federal financial support, Congress has never appropriated more than \$2 million; and

WHEREAS, Indian people, especially those living on reservations, are in need of equity on this point and demand the same access to 1862 land grant university extension educational programs that neighboring non-Indian communities have received for over 92 years (since Smith Lever Act, 1914); now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI shall, at least annually, petition the Congress of the United States, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and CSREES to provide adequate and equitable funding for the FRTEP program; and

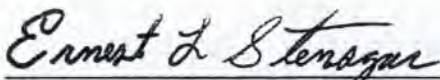
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI does hereby recommend and support a permanent enhancement of FRTEP funding, beginning with an appropriation of \$8 million in the next federal fiscal year, and including regular increases over the next 10 years for the purpose of expanding FRTEP to additional tribes and reservations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI believes its support of FRTEP expansion is fully complimentary to the 1994 Tribal Colleges and University Extension Programs and that the organizational flexibility within FRTEP will enable a more rapid expansion of extension programming to all reservations; and

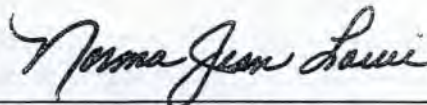
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI supports and encourages American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes in their pursuit of equitable access to 1862 land grant university Cooperative Extension educational programs; and

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2007 Winter Conference of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Holiday Inn Portland Airport Hotel Portland, Oregon on February 15, 2007, with a quorum present.



Ernest L. Stensgar, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary