



## Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians

### **2007 Winter Conference Portland, Oregon**

#### **RESOLUTION #07-09**

#### **RECOMMENDATION THAT OMB AND IHS ALLOW TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DELIBERATIONS OF DEVELOPING THE IHS 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 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**, there is a federal trust relationship that was established through treaties and Presidential Executive Orders entered into between the United States and Indian tribes and which has been affirmed through numerous court decisions, legislation, and policy declarations by Presidential Administrations; and

**WHEREAS**, this federal trust relationship forms the basis of a government-to-government relationship between the United States and Tribal governments that has been affirmed in President Bush's policy memorandum supporting Executive Order No. 13175 on Tribal Consultation and his more recent Executive Memorandum No. 13336, entitled American Indian and Alaska Native Education; and

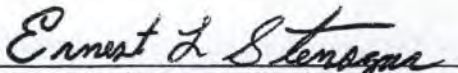
**WHEREAS**, the Office of Management and Budget<sup>1</sup> has reported that guidance and budget practices should be more transparent, consistent and accountable and that such concerns also have been raised by other authorities, including Congress, and Tribal governments; and

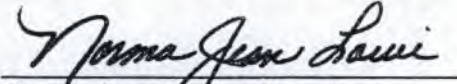
**WHEREAS**, as the Department of Health and Human Services and the Indian Health Service finalize the IHS budget, Tribal governments are not included in the final negotiation process and due to the nature of the government-to-government relationship must be included in these final negotiations; now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that ATNI hereby urges the Administration, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Indian Health Service to include a representative from the Direct Service Tribes Advisory Committee, the National Indian Health Board, the National Congress of American Indians, and the Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committee to participate in the final negotiations (OMB Passback, etc.) in developing the IHS budget.

### CERTIFICATION

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

  
Ernest L. Stensgar, President

  
Norma Jean Louie, Secretary

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Office of Management and Budget, Draft Report to Congress on the Costs and Benefits of Federal Regulations, 67 FR 15,014, 15,034-35 (March 28, 2002).