



Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians

2007 Winter Conference Portland, Oregon

RESOLUTION #07 - 12

"NATIVE AMERICAN HOLIDAY"

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, Congress holds authority and has passed legislation in designating holidays for cultural, spiritual and other purposes; and

WHEREAS, Native Americans, Native Hawaiians and Native Alaskan Tribes have been on this continent for thousands of years; and

WHEREAS, these natives have contributed much of their homelands, taken by the United States, given their lives in protecting this land in times of war, and being left behind in education, health care, and other trust responsibilities created by treaties, statutes and executive orders; and

WHEREAS, the Culture/Elders Committee recommends that legislation sets aside the fourth Friday in November as "Native American Holiday;" now

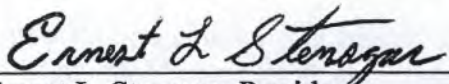
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI hereby supports that this Resolution shall be sent to Alaska, Hawaii, Washington, Idaho, and Oregon Governors for support through their legislature for memorial resolutions to the Congress of the United States; and

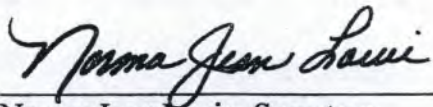
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall also be sent to the Congressional delegates of said states and to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that ATNI hereby formally requests the creation of a national holiday to honor Native Americans for their historic contributions to this nation and their continued role in the United States.

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