

## **2009 Winter Conference Tulalip, Washington**

### **RESOLUTION #09 - 02**

#### **“SUPPORTING THE BUREAU CENSUS (2010) PROCESS THROUGH TRIBAL PARTICIPATION TO COUNT NATIVE AMERICAN PEOPLE”**

### **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**, ATNI 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 ATNI; and

**WHEREAS**, ATNI has been informed that the United States Bureau of the census is currently preparing for the census for the year 2010 by requesting that each tribal government designate a person to act as the liaison for the Census 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, the census is vital to our community in that it determines the apportionment of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives and the State Legislatures, and is the basis for the allocation of billions of dollars of federal, state and county funds for social and other programs; and

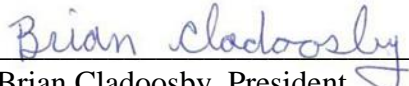
**WHEREAS**, in recognition of the unique legal relationship between the U.S. Government and the American Indian and Alaska Native Tribal Governments, the Census Bureau will implement a Tribal/Alaska Native Liaison Program throughout the U.S. for Census 2010 to provide programs information, offer employment opportunities, and interact with all tribal entities in an effective, respectful, and sensitive manner; and

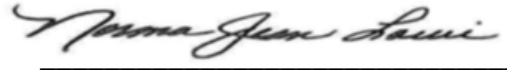
**WHEREAS**, ATNI is committed to partnering with the U.S. Census Bureau in preparing for Census 2010 through address list updates, census map corrections, and jurisdictional boundary updates; now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians member tribes will designate a tribal department and/or specific staff person to serve as a liaison for the Census 2010 planning to enable the ATNI tribes to work with the U.S. Census Bureau throughout the census process to strengthen public awareness, to decrease undercounts for American Indian people, and to work together to improve the accuracy and quality of census results for the year 2010.

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2009 Winter Conference of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at Tulalip Resort & Casino, Tulalip, Washington on February 19, 2009 with a quorum present.

  
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Brian Cladoosby, President

  
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Norma Jean Louie, Secretary