

2009 Winter Conference Tulalip, Washington

RESOLUTION #09 - 06

“NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 2009”

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, the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) is comprised of housing programs for Indian tribes, Alaska Native villages and Native Hawaiian communities; and

WHEREAS, on October 14, 2008, the President of the United States signed into law H.R. 2786, an Act of Congress to amend and reauthorize NAHASDA through 2013; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 2786 enhances tribal capacity to address substandard housing and infrastructure conditions in Indian country by encouraging greater self-management of housing programs and leveraging of scarce Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) dollars; and

WHEREAS, in 2000, NAHASDA was amended to create Title VIII, to address the housing needs of Native Hawaiians and create the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant (NHHBG); and

WHEREAS, sadly, the reauthorization of NAHASDA in 2008 did not include the Native Hawaiian provisions; and

WHEREAS, ATNI has consistently supported housing programs for Native Hawaiians and, in particular, reauthorization of Title VIII of NAHASDA, which establishes the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant (NHHBG); and

WHEREAS, funding for the IHBG and NHHBG are completely separate appropriations line-items; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Homeownership Opportunity Act of 2009 (S. 72 and H.R. 709) was introduced in the 111th Congress to reauthorize and amend Title VIII of NAHASDA and extend to Native Hawaiians Section 184A loan guarantee and Title VI loan guarantee authority; and

WHEREAS, upon becoming law, this legislation will ensure that the Native Hawaiian community will continue to have access to low-income housing funds and loan guarantees as well as capital to finance housing-related physical infrastructure; now


THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians urges the United States Congress to swiftly enact the Native Hawaiian Homeownership Opportunity Act of 2009.

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.



Brian Cladoosby, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary