

**2009 Winter Conference
Tulalip, Washington**

Resolution #09- 29

**"REAFFIRMING ATNI'S POSITION TO TRANSFER THE OFFICE OF THE
SPECIAL TRUSTEE FUNCTIONS AND FUNDING TO
THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS"**

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, California, and Alaska; and

WHEREAS, many of ATNI's member tribes have lost key BIA positions, functions, funding and decision-making authority at the local agency level since the Office of the Special Trustee's (OST) creation in 1994; and

WHEREAS, ATNI and other tribal organizations, including the Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association and the United South and Eastern Tribes, have been activity engaged on trust reform issues and have passed resolutions recommending that OST be phased out and its functions transferred to the BIA; now

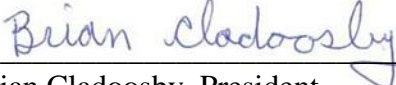
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI and its member tribes hereby reaffirm ATNI's position, as set forth in prior ATNI resolutions and congressional testimony, that (a) OST functions and funding that were originally allocated to the BIA be restored to the BIA; (b)

that functions created by OST, and the funding allocated to OST for those functions, be transferred to the BIA; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, any transfer of OST functions and funding shall be implemented the Department of the Interior by with government-to-government consultation with Indian tribal governments and tribal organizations.

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