

**2009 Mid-Year Conference
Reno, Nevada**

RESOLUTION #09 - 31

**“REAFFIRMATION OF THE NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
GOALS FOR REAUTHORIZATION OF THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
EDUCATION ACT”**

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, through its unique relationship with Indian nations and tribes, the U.S. Federal Government has established programs to meet the culturally related educational needs of American Indians, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiians, residing on and off their reserved or non-reserved homelands; and

WHEREAS, the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), currently known as “No Child Left Behind” will be reviewed by Congress in anticipation of this key comprehensive legislation that affects all K-12 education, including Indian education and related programs; and

WHEREAS, the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) is actively reviewing ESEA and is making specific recommendations to strengthen the legislation to ensure Native students, staff, parents, communities and tribes receive equitable and equal consideration throughout the legislation; and

WHEREAS, specific provisions being addressed by the NIEA includes, but is not limited to the following:

1. Expand and maintain the current provisions of Title VII - Indian Education, to address the unique cultural and educational needs of Indian students.
2. Improve cooperation among Tribes, States and the Federal Government.
3. Strengthen ESEA to provide support for instruction in Native American Languages.
4. Improve support for teachers of Native students in Title II and Title VII..
5. Improve opportunities for parents, families and Tribes and Native communities to participate in the education of Native children.
6. Improve the measurement system for Adequate Yearly Progress.
7. Require the collection of data and research on the education of Native children.
8. Increase funding for ESEA, especially Title VII - Indian Education.

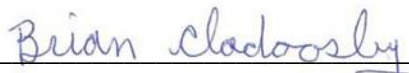
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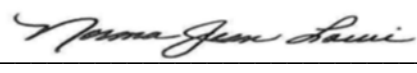
WHEREAS, these key legislative provisions supports the sovereignty of Tribes and will continue to strengthen the educational, social, health and economic well-being of our diverse Tribes and communities; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI will collaborate with the National Indian Education Association to advocate and promote the unique and special educational needs of American Indians, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians through ATNI legislative priorities

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2009 Mid-Year Conference of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Silver Legacy Casino, Reno, Nevada on May 18-21, 2009 with a quorum present.


 Brian Cladoosby, President


 Norma Jean Louie, Secretary