

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

**RESOLUTION #09 - 33**

**“SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION NATIVE  
EDUCATION AGENDA: A TRANSITION PAPER FOR THE U.S. DEPARTMENT  
OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES”**

**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**, to ensure tribal sovereignty, self-governance and vitality of Indian Tribes, families and communities are achieved, the culturally related educational needs of Native students must be addressed in a comprehensive manner from preschool to higher education; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to address the educational achievement status of Native students from preschool to higher education, including the disproportionate opportunities and equitable representation in achieving a culturally responsive and high quality education that also ensures the well-being of students in safe, healthy schools, families, and community environments; and

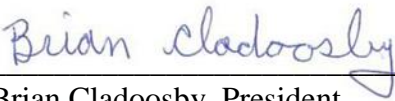
**WHEREAS**, culturally responsive and equitable education opportunities for Native students must be improved in the governance of Indian education with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and

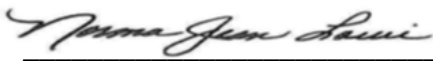
**WHEREAS**, ATNI has a history of collaborating with the National Indian Education Association in a legislative agenda that ensures culturally responsive and high quality Indian Education goals are achieved to preserve our tribal sovereignty; now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that ATNI hereby endorses the National Indian Education Association Native Education Agenda: A Transition Paper for the Department of Health and Human Services (see attached NIEA Agenda for the Department of Health and Human Services).

#### 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.

  
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Brian Cladoosby, President

  
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Norm Jean Louie, Secretary

