

2009 Mid-Year Conference Reno, Nevada

RESOLUTION #09 - 49

“FAIR TAX CODE APPLICATION FOR INDIAN COUNTRY”

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 United States has entered over 700 treaties with the Indian Nations, with over half ratified by the Senate and Proclaimed by the President; and,

WHEREAS, the President and the Congress have developed “Indian Affairs” policies that have, historically, most often, been detrimental to the safety, health and socio-economic well-being of the Indian peoples and tribal nations; and

WHEREAS, the ATNI supports the call to further define the constitutional relationship between the United States and the Indian Nations, and to secure positive alignment of the Indian Affairs Policies of President Obama and the Congress, as a means to expand tribal self-determination; and

WHEREAS, ATNI is confident that such alignment will increase implementation of the U.S. treaty and executive order obligations to honor the “Sacred Trust of Civilization” and encourage the Congress to enact needed amendments to the Internal Revenue Code to assure that revenues generated inside of Indian Country are reinvested to overcome the poverty suffered by the nations and improve the delivery & performance of essential governmental functions and services; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI hereby calls for Congressional Oversight Hearings to Align the Indian Affairs Policies of President Obama with the U.S. Congress, and to further clarify and define the constitutional foundations to the nation-to-nation relationship between the Indian Tribes and the United States; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI calls upon the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs and the House Natural Resources (Indian Affairs) Committee to sponsor the Oversight Hearings and to secure said clarification for all future generations, as well as to positively and affirmatively declare that the resulting “Joint Resolution” nullifies House Joint Resolution #108 for all intent, purposes, and permanently, and aligns national policy with the purpose of lawfully encouraging & implementing tribal self-determination and self-governance; and

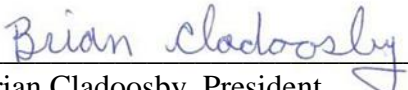
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI calls upon both Committees of the Senate and House to encourage the leadership of the Senate Finance Committee, Senate Appropriations Committee, Joint Taxation Committee, House Ways & Means Committee, House Appropriations Committee recognize the need to provide Indian Country with federal tax preemptions, exemptions, and credits as the means and vehicle to stimulate tribal economic growth and recovery; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI directs the Taxation Sub-Committee to convene a meeting with interested ATNI tribes to finalize an ATNI strategy prior to the NCAI convention; and


BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that ATNI requests the National Congress of American Indians, and all other regional and national intertribal organizations to support this call to align the Presidential and Congressional Indian Affairs Policies and to seek more fair, progressive and positive tax code application to Indian Country.

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