



2009 Annual Conference Tacoma, Washington

RESOLUTION #09 - 51

“CALL FOR NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF TRIBES ON TAXATION AND SOVEREIGNTY”

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, ATNI and the National Congress of American Indians have both enacted resolutions to develop plans and strategies to address intertribal concerns about the U.S. Department of Treasury, Internal Revenue Service, application of the whole Internal Revenue Code to Indian Country; and

WHEREAS, ATNI Tax Committee, and the ATNI membership are concerned about the constant attempts of our intertribal organizations' staff to call upon the Internal Revenue Service to come in and address our tribal concerns by informing the tribes that "consultation" is a matter of teaching tribal governments how to collect, document, and pay tribal taxes to the United States; and

WHEREAS, in the Iroquois Resolutions the United States recognized that the government to government relationship with the Indian Tribes is founded upon the U.S. Constitution, and that we, as ATNI member tribes, recognize that the Constitution is, then, a legal barrier to unlawful exercise of national and individual state government(s) inside the boundaries of Indian Reservations; and

WHEREAS, Indian Country and ATNI recognize that the IRS has developed and implemented an aggressive campaign to apply the federal income taxes to all incomes and revenues generated inside Indian Country, and that ATNI recognizes that this is in contravention to the intent of various constitutional provisions as it applies to Indian Country; and

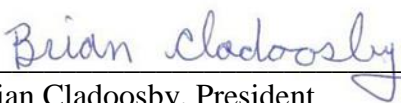
WHEREAS, ATNI member Tribes recognize that the NCAI has proclaimed that it intends to host a National Tax Conference for Indian Country, but instead has invited the IRS to present at the upcoming Conference at Palms Springs 2009; and

WHEREAS, the ATNI member Tribes believe that it is an intertribal mandate that our tribal organizations take directive from intertribal leadership and begin the coordination or joint-coordination of a National Tax Conference that shall address "Federal Taxation of Indian Country in Light of Inherent Tribal Sovereignty and the US Constitution"; now

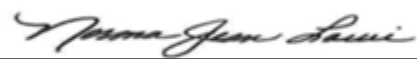
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that ATNI calls upon NCAI to work with all regional intertribal organizations to immediately coordinate a national intertribal tax conference that shall address unconstitutional federal taxation of Indian Country and Indian Sovereignty.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2009 Annual Conference of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Greater Tacoma Convention & Trade Center, Tacoma, Washington on September 21 - 24, 2009 with a quorum present.



Brian Cladoosby, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary