



## 2010 Mid-Year Conference Grand Ronde, Oregon

### RESOLUTION #10 - 17

#### **"SUPPORT IN CASE OF CHEHALIS *TRIBE V. THURSTON COUNTY*"**

### **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/Alaska Natives 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**, it is in the common interest of ATNI member tribes to support economic development and regulation of businesses located on each reservation; and

**WHEREAS**, Thurston County of the State of Washington has attempted to impose a personal property tax on the Great Wolf Lodge, a tribal enterprise and buildings owned 51% by the Tribe, and located on the Chehalis Reservation; which ownership was upheld in a decision by the Federal District Court; and

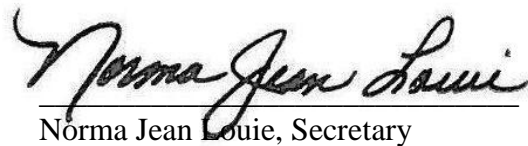
**WHEREAS**, the Tribe has requested the Department of the Interior and the United States Department of Justice to intervene in the case at the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals through providing an Amicus Brief in support of the Chehalis Tribe's position and in order to clarify and support the federal interests in this tribal enterprise; now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that ATNI does hereby support the Chehalis Tribe, and urges the Department of Interior and the U.S. Department of Justice to provide the requested Amicus Brief support in this important case.

#### CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2010 Mid-Year Conference of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Spirit Mountain Casino, Grand Ronde, Oregon, on May 17 - 20, 2010 with a quorum present.

  
Brian Cladoosby, President

  
Norma Jean Louie, Secretary