



2010 Annual Conference Spokane, Washington

RESOLUTION #10 - 47

"ASSESSMENT OF THE BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR"

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, Executive Orders, 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 to 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 and tribes 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 the ATNI; and

WHEREAS, through its unique relationship with Indian nations and tribes, the federal government has established programs and resources to meet the educational needs of American Indians and Alaska Native residing on and off their reserved or non-reserved homelands; and

WHEREAS, among those institutions now operated by the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE), within the U.S. Department of Interior (DOI), are educational institutions from preschool to higher education; and

WHEREAS, Tribal control of education institutions that serve Native Americans and Alaska Natives has long been shown to be an effective mechanism for governance of these institutions; and

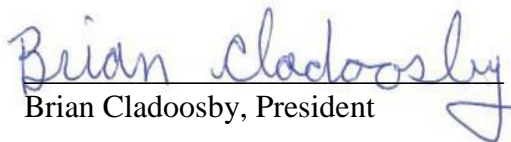
WHEREAS, to gain a more thorough understanding of Bureau of Indian Education schools and institutions, there is a need for a national intergovernmental assessment of the governance structures and success rates of Native students; i.e., graduation, persistence, dropout, and other factors that demonstrate the achievement of the principles of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975 (P.L. 93-638, as amended); now

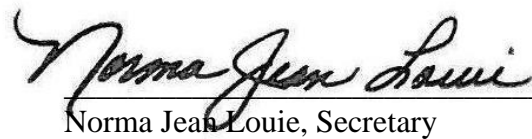
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI calls upon the National Congress of American Indians and the National Indian Education Association to work collaboratively with the U.S. Department of Interior and Department of Education to develop an Assessment Plan of the Bureau of Indian Education and report back to ATNI; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI directs its Executive Director to ensure that the present Presidential Administration and appropriate Congressional leaders and Committee Chairmen receive a copy of this Resolution and that this policy goal be pursued until it is accomplished.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2010 Annual Conference of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Northern Quest Resort and Casino in Spokane, Washington, September 20-23, 2010 with a quorum present.


Brian Cladoosby, President


Norma Jean Louie, Secretary