



2011 Mid-Year Conference Worley, Idaho

RESOLUTION #11 - 29

"SUPPORT FOR LEGISLATION PROTECTING CHEMAWA INDIAN SCHOOL PROPERTY"

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, the Chemawa Indian School is the oldest continuously operating Native American boarding school in the United States graduating thousands of Native American students since its establishment in Salem, Oregon in 1885; and

WHEREAS, Chemawa Indian School students purchased land for the school with money they earned picking hops; and

WHEREAS, today the Chemawa Indian School land is held by the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, the Chemawa Indian School campus size has been diminished by highway and other transportation development along the I-5 corridor and the Chemawa Road/I-5 interchange; and

WHEREAS, ATNI adopted Resolution 06-37 "Request to Move the Land upon Which the Chemawa Indian School is Located into Trust;" and

WHEREAS, ATNI adopted Resolution 09-085 "Chemawa School Property Conceptual Plan Adoption;" and

WHEREAS, Oregon tribes have expressed concern that the General Services Administration (GSA) may deem portions of the Chemawa Indian School property to be surplus or excess property and possibly transferred to other non-Indian governmental agencies or private parties; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, ATNI hereby opposes any further diminishment of the Chemawa Indian School land; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI does hereby support legislation specifically authorizing the GSA and the Bureau of Indian Affairs to use the Chemawa Indian School property for Indian educational purposes including prohibiting GSA, or any other federal agency, from disposing of the property as surplus or excess land or exchanging the property for non-federal lands; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution does not withdraw or modify Resolution 06-37 or Resolution 09-085; and


BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of ATNI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2011 Mid-Year Conference of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Coeur d'Alene Casino and Resort in Worley, Idaho, May 16-19, 2011 with a quorum present.



Brian Cladoosby, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary