



2012 Mid-Year Conference Chinook Wind Casino, Lincoln City, OR

RESOLUTION # 12-22

"OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY OVERSIGHT ACT OF 2012 SENATE BILL 3053"

PREAMBLE

We, the members of 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, 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 ATNI; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States of America maintains the ultimate authority to appoint all ten Regional Administrators of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); and

WHEREAS, Senator James Inhofe (R-OK) introduced S. 3053 on May 9, 2012, that would require Senate confirmation of EPA Regional Administrators; and

WHEREAS, S. 3053 would require Regional Administrators of the EPA to be appointed by and with the advice and consent of the United States Senate; and

WHEREAS, S. 3053 would diminish the Presidential authority to select, authorize and appoint Regional Administrators of EPA; and

WHEREAS, the legislation of S. 3053 would ultimately cause political burden on Indian Country, Treaty Rights, jurisdictional integrity of tribal lands and the protection of tribal environments, natural resources, sacred places, cultural activities, subsistence practices and tribal lifeways, and the necessary protective measures of the health of tribal communities; and

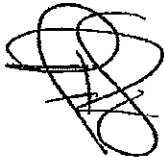
WHEREAS, it is important that the authority of the Presidency be recognized by all citizens of the United States; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI does hereby fully opposes the proposed S. 3053; and

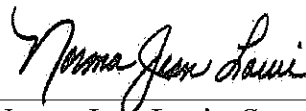
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that ATNI hereby requests the National Congress of American Indians and calls upon other national and regional tribal organizations to join in the opposition of the proposed S. 3053.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2012 Mid-Year Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Chinook Winds Casino, Lincoln City, Oregon, on May 21-24, 2012, with a quorum present.



Fawn Sharp, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary