



2013 Winter Convention Grand Mound, WA

RESOLUTION #13 - 01

“BIA BUDGET CULTURAL RESOURCE LINE ITEM”

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 Bureau of Indian Affairs has federally mandated responsibilities to work with Indian tribes and comply with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA); and

WHEREAS, Indian tribes have only two sources of reliable, though underfunded, federal programs to support their efforts to preserve and protect their cultural resources and comply with federally funded development projects – NAGPRA Grants and Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) Funding; and

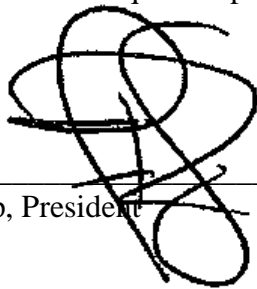
WHEREAS, there is currently no line item within the Bureau of Indian Affairs budget to support tribal efforts to comply and fully participate in the federal historic preservation structure (comply with NHPA, NEPA, and NAGPRA), as well as preserve and protect the cultural heritage in the respective tribal communities; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that for the well-being of the unique tribal cultures in the nation and in furtherance of tribal and BIA compliance with federal and tribal laws and statutes that ATNI does hereby call for the BIA to create and support a financial line item in their budget that supports tribal efforts to preserve and protect tribal cultures and participate in federally-funded development projects; and

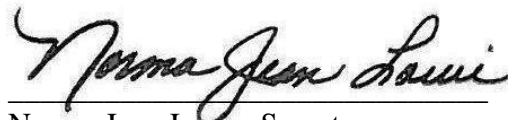
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI requests that this new budget line item not require an offset of other BIA programs or projects or affect in any way funding from NAGPRA Grants or THPO Funding.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2013 Winter Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at Great Wolf Lodge, Grand Mound, Washington, on January 28 – 31, 2013 with a quorum present.



Fawn Sharp, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary