



## **2014 Winter Convention Ferndale, WA**

### **RESOLUTION #14 - 14**

#### **“IN OPPOSITION TO THE LEGALIZATION OF MARIJUANA AND IN FAVOR OF A POSITIVE, PUBLIC-HEALTH, YOUTH SUPPORTIVE APPROACH TO MARIJUANA PREVENTION AND POLICY”**

#### **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**, today's marijuana is 4-10 times more potent than marijuana of previous decades and is thus a threat to the health and safety of all Tribes, especially our youth; and

**WHEREAS**, Tribes continue to show higher rates of marijuana and other drug use than other race/ethnicities in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, marijuana has been proven to be associated with a reduction in IQ, mental illness, poor learning outcomes, drugged driving, lung damage, addiction and emergency room mentions related to acute panic attacks and psychotic episodes, and treatment entry; and

**WHEREAS**, a massive marijuana lobby – advertising and promoting abuse – has emerged in light of the legalization of the drug in Colorado and Washington; and

**WHEREAS**, voters in California, Oregon, and Alaska may be voting on ballot measures to legalize marijuana in 2014; now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that ATNI does hereby oppose the legalization of marijuana at all levels of governments; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that ANTI will work at all levels to oppose the legalization of any drug at all levels of government and in schools; and

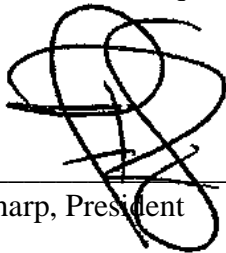
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that ATNI supports parents in their efforts to keep kids drug-free and live prosperous lives; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that ATNI calls on all Tribes to work toward fostering safe and healthy environments free of drugs; and

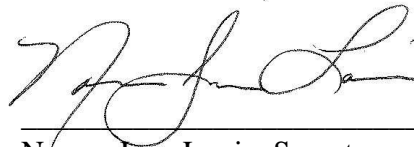
**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that ATNI partners with Smart Approaches to Marijuana (SAM) in supporting drug prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery efforts that focus on reducing marijuana use, especially among youth.

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2014 Winter Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at Silver Reef Hotel Casino Spa, Ferndale, WA on February 17 - 20, 2014, with a quorum present.



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Fawn Sharp, President



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Norma Jean Louie, Secretary