



2014 Mid-Year Convention Grand Mound, WA

RESOLUTION #14 - 30

“PASS SENATE BILL 1352: REAUTHORIZATION OF NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE SELF-DETERMINATION ACT AND INCREASE IN CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATIONS OVER ITS FIVE YEAR TERM”

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 Northwest Indian Housing Association (NWIHA) represents thirty-eight Indian Housing Authorities, Tribally Designated Housing Entities, and Tribal Housing Programs and Departments in Idaho, Oregon and Washington, and Annette Island, Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Mission of NWIHA is to promote safe, sanitary, decent and affordable housing for Tribal members in the Pacific Northwest, which it accomplishes by providing training and education opportunities; providing a forum for the discussion and resolution of issues; advocating for the collective benefit of all members; effectively linking members to information and financial resources; and working collaboratively with its industry partners; and

WHEREAS, the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA) was enacted to further Tribal self-governance, and streamline and simplify the process of providing housing assistance to Tribes and Tribal members; and

WHEREAS, NAHASDA was reauthorized twice, in 2002 and 2008, but expired on September 30, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1352, sponsored by Senator Maria Cantwell and introduced on July 24, 2013, is a bill to reauthorize the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act is being considered in the 113th Congress; and

WHEREAS, two similar bills have been introduced in the House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs published its report on Senate Bill 1352 on April 11, 2014, stating, “Notwithstanding the very troubling statistics on housing need throughout Indian country, the reauthorization does not increase the Federal spending authorization for this program;” and

WHEREAS, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) reports that over 25 percent of American Indian housing units have “severe housing needs,” including (among other things), lack of basic plumbing or kitchen facilities, housing more than one person per room, and bearing a cost burden of more than 50 percent of income; and

WHEREAS, the Congressional Budget Office prepared a cost estimate for Senate Bill 1352, which indicated that housing block grants would only be funded at an average of \$679 million per year over the next five year reauthorization period, and was woefully short of the need, estimated at a minimum of \$1 billion per year by the National American Indian Housing Council; and

WHEREAS, after adopting this resolution, the Executive Committee of NWIHA submitted it to its Voting Members to obtain a sense of the membership, a majority of those members having approved it by a vote conducted by electronic means; now

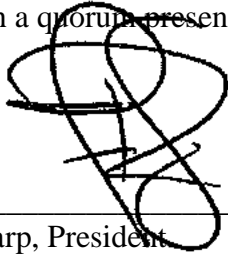
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI does hereby join with NWIHA to urge the Senate to pass Senate Bill 1352, the Reauthorization of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI does hereby join with NWIHA to strongly support increased Congressional appropriations of at least \$1 billion per year over the 5 year reauthorization period; and

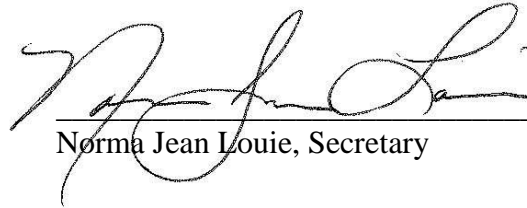
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that ATNI does hereby respectfully request the National American Indian Housing Council, the National Congress of American Indians, and all other regional Native American associations and organizations to join with NWIHA in supporting this Resolution.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2014 Mid-Year Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at Great Wolf Lodge, Grand Mound, Washington, on May 5 – 8, 2014 with a quorum present.



Fawn Sharp, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary