



2015 Mid-Year Convention Warm Springs, Oregon

RESOLUTION #15 - 33

“TO OPPOSE THE U.S DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION MAY 12, 2014 (FHWA) MEMORANDUM THAT PROVIDES GUIDANCE THAT PROHIBITS FHWA FROM SPONSORING CONFERENCES AT RESORTS OR CASINOS INCLUDING THOSE ON TRIBAL LANDS”

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 U.S. Department of Transportation, the Federal Highways Administration (FHWA) provided a May 12, 2014 Memorandum that provided guidance that states, “In general, FHWA will not sponsor conferences at, nor allow employees to stay at, resorts or hotels with casinos, including those on tribal lands. For conferences held at such facilities, FHWA employees may be permitted to attend the meetings at a resort or casino, but must stay at an off-site facility. Also, regardless of cost, the Executive Director must approve (co) sponsorship of any conferences that will be held in foreign locales, renowned vacation destinations, recreational sites, or resorts with casinos, including those on tribal lands;” and

WHEREAS, on May 7, 2015, the Tribal Transportation Program Coordinating Committee (TTPCC) wrote a letter to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs and the Associate Administrator—Federal Lands Highway Program, FHWA, requesting that the May 12, 2015 U.S. DOT, FHWA memorandum be revised to exclude meetings of the TTPCC; and

WHEREAS, the TTPCC and the ATNI Transportation Committee believe the prohibition to sponsor federally hosted meetings is fundamentally flawed, bordering on policy that is a detriment to tribal government operations, tribal economic development and does not comply with the Department of Interior “Buy Indian” regulations; now

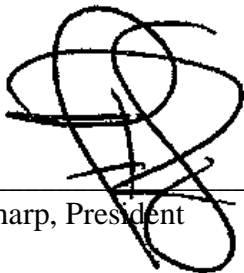
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI does hereby oppose the policy guidance of the U.S. DOT and FHWA that prohibits hosting federal meetings on tribal lands and/or tribal casinos and strongly recommend that this policy be amended; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians support all federal agencies hosting its federal meetings on tribal lands and/or tribal casinos.

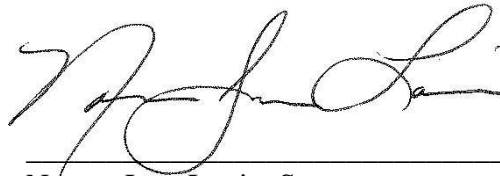
BE IF FINALLY RESOLVED,

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2015 Mid-Year Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Kah-Nee-Ta Resort and Spa, Warm Springs, Oregon on May 18-21, 2015, with a quorum present.



Fawn Sharp, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary