



## **2015 Annual Convention Spokane, Washington**

### **RESOLUTION #15 - 56**

#### **“REAFFIRM CALL FOR TRIBAL PERSON TO HEAD ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (AC) TRIBAL TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF) IN WASHINGTON, DC”**

#### **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 ATNI Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANFs) represent over 30% of the total tribal TANF programs in the United States including states that

contribute at least a 60% Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Funds to the tribes as well as States whose MOE funding to tribally TANF programs are less than 20% of their MOE; and

**WHEREAS**, the tribal TANFs clients are among the most difficult to serve clients due to a high rate of unemployment, substance abuse, domestic violence and other social issues; and

**WHEREAS**, tribal populations lack in opportunities for education and vocational training, especially due to their remote locations; and

**WHEREAS**, the tribal TANFs of our nations are located in areas where populations cannot support industry, no matter how small; and

**WHEREAS**, even where commerce is possible, jobs are lost in the smallest shifts to economic instability; and

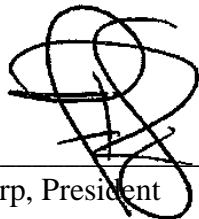
**WHEREAS**, sensitive tribal leadership in the management of Tribal TANF at the Headquarters of the Administration For Children and Families is critical to the successful delivery of Tribal TANF services to tribal people; and

**WHEREAS**, the tribes for over 8 years have been calling on the President's Administration to appoint a Tribal TANF qualified and experienced tribal person to fill the Tribal TANF position at ACF in Washington DC; now

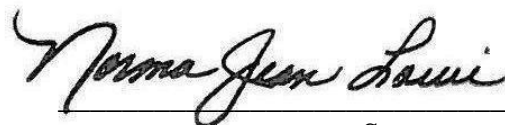
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that ATNI does hereby reaffirm its call on the Secretary of Health and Human Service and the Assistant Secretary for ACF, to fill the Tribal Office for TANF in ACF Central with a qualified and experienced tribal person.

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2015 Annual Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at Northern Quest Resort and Casino, Spokane, Washington on September 14-17, 2015, with a quorum present.



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Fawn Sharp, President



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, Secretary