



## **2016 Annual Convention Tulalip, Washington**

### **RESOLUTION #16 - 48**

#### **“DISASTER RELIEF FOR DISLOCATED FISHERS”**

##### **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 Point Elliot Treaty of 1855, ratified by the U.S. Senate in 1859, Article 14, states that the federal government will establish schools to provide tribal members with job training; and

**WHEREAS**, the objective of the Magnusson Stevens Act as revised in 1996 and operated as the National Emergency Program (NEG) by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), is to restore continuous self-sufficiency, not short-term employment; and

**WHEREAS**, self-sufficiency requires the engagement of the individual, their family unit, home community, in the local and/or regional economy and ecosystem; and

**WHEREAS**, recurring fisheries' economic disasters is not the preferred way of life for members of the ATNI tribes; and

**WHEREAS**, the Lummi Nation is not responsible for the combination of factors that have challenged our access to our reserved fisheries; and

**WHEREAS**, the Lummi Nation wants to resolve the economic fisheries crisis in favor of its membership and seek continuous funding for ongoing problems; and

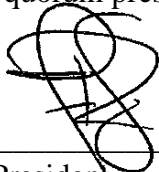
**WHEREAS**, the Lummi Nation has stated its willingness to participate in a process to resolve the problem, but the decisions made by other U.S. government agencies for the benefit of tribal peoples have disengaged the Lummi Nation from the resources they successfully managed for thousands of years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Lummi Nation has no choice but to enlist other governments, their people, and their financial and technical resources in a process to reverse depletion of salmon and related fisheries stocks and restore the abundance that is our heritage; now

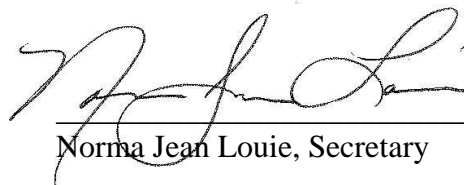
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the ATNI Tribes support the request for consultation with the U.S. DOL on its 2018-19 budget request currently under development to engage in discussions on how program services function and how they meet the needs of the dislocated fishermen, their families and their communities.

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2016 Annual Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at Tulalip Resort Casino, Tulalip, Washington on September 26–29, with a quorum present.



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Fawn Sharp, President



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Norma Jean Louie, Secretary

