



**2016 Annual Convention  
Tulalip, Washington**

**RESOLUTION #16 – 56**

**“SUPPORT LETTER OF UMATILLA TO DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
REGARDING PROPOSED RULE FOR RECOGNITION OF TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS  
FOR REPRESENTATION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CLAIMANTS”**

**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

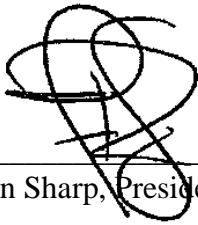
**WHEREAS**, the ATNI Veterans Committee has read and supports the written comments of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (attached) to the Director of Regulation Policy and Management, with the attached letter from the Veterans Committee of ATNI regarding the proposed rule of Department of Veterans Affairs and 38 CFR 14.628(d);

now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that ATNI respectfully requests that the Director of Regulation Policy and Management provide the Veterans Committee of ATNI a response to the findings of these comments provided herein, prior to the publication of this proposed rule.


**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