



**2017 Annual Convention  
Spokane, WA**

**RESOLUTION #17 - 43**

**“TRIBAL READINESS IN BASE ENGINEERING AND  
STEM INITIATIVE (TRIBES-I)”**

**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 (AI/AN) 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**, Northwest Earth and Space Sciences Pipeline (NESSP) and Washington NASA Space Grant Consortium (WSGC) proliferate and advocate Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) opportunities for American Indian and Alaska Native students matriculated at tribal and public schools; and

**WHEREAS**, the NESSP and WSGC co-create and multiply comprehensive STEM educational opportunities with students in ATNI; and

**WHEREAS**, the NESSP and WSGC co-create with federal, tribal, public, and private institutions to provide all American Indian and Alaska Native students with high-quality academic and cultural education; and

**WHEREAS**, Native Americans and Alaska Native students endure significant barriers that discourage them from pursuing STEM education and careers that include: lack of financial support, racism, inadequate K-12 STEM education programs that are culturally relevant, absence of precollege preparation programs, and cultural bias from higher education institutions; and

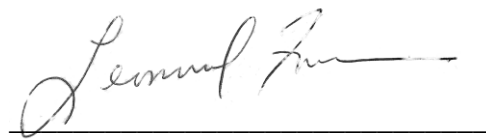
**WHEREAS**, the NESSP/WSGC submitted a proposal to Washington State Legislature entitled "Tribal Readiness in Base Engineering and STEM Initiative (TRIBES-I)," to bridge the AI/AN student STEM education gap and remove barriers; now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that ATNI does hereby agree to support the TRIBES-I funding proposal submitted to Washington State; and

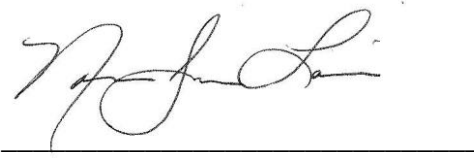
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that ATNI supports the STEM education efforts of the NESSP and WSGC, its staff, and encourages Member Tribes to co-create, participate, offer support and sponsorship for NESSP and WSGC efforts so that all Native students receive access to high-quality academic and cultural STEM education.

### **CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2017 Annual Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Davenport Grand Hotel, Spokane, Washington on September 18-21, 2017, with a quorum present.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary