



2017 DRAFT AFN CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS

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SUBSISTENCE



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-1

TITLE: CONCERN OVER ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT LISTINGS AND APPROPRIATE CONSULTATION

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and

WHEREAS: the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and

WHEREAS: AFN supports 19 coastal walrus hunting communities and hunters represented by a marine mammal organization like the Eskimo Walrus Commission (EWC) formed in 1978 by Kawerak, Inc.; and

WHEREAS: AFN supports affected organizations in their efforts and involvement in any Endangered Species Act (ESA) discussions or marine mammal policy issues related to a species such as walrus; and

WHEREAS: the Endangered Species Act listing determination process is of concern to Alaska Natives because of the potential shift in its legal context in relation to marine mammals that will potentially open the door for the possibility of top-down management rather than co-managed regulation of the subsistence harvest; and

WHEREAS: AFN believes marine mammal co-management organizations should be formally consulted per Executive Order 13175, Section 5(a) which states that “Each agency shall have an accountable process to ensure meaningful and timely input by tribal offices in the development of regulatory process that have tribal implications” such as ESA.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives that AFN supports all marine mammal and migratory bird co-management organizations in their continued work toward a common recognition that the Endangered Species Act process should allow for a full and meaningful consultation with tribes and tribal organizations participation and for every potential consultation situation.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY: COUNCIL ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES
COMMITTEE ACTION: REFER TO BOARD – AFN BOARD APPROVED TO SEND RESOLUTION TO FLOOR
CONVENTION ACTION: AMENDED AND PASSED

HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-2

- TITLE:** CHANGE FEMA POLICY AND AMEND STAFFORD ACT TO ADDRESS SLOW DEVELOPING DISASTERS AND MELTING PERMAFROST
- WHEREAS:** The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and
- WHEREAS:** the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and
- WHEREAS:** the majority of Alaskan Native Villages (86%) are experiencing substantial damage caused by persistent and increasing storms, floods, erosion, melting permafrost and other slow developing disasters; and
- WHEREAS:** last year, President Obama denied Newtok Tribe's' request to declare national disasters under the Stafford Act because of the damage caused by these slow moving forces; and
- WHEREAS:** the Stafford Act gives the President wide discretion in determining what is a "disaster", and providing assistance to tribes who suffer disasters that overwhelm their capacity to recover from such disasters; and
- WHEREAS:** while President Obama did not explain his reasons for the denial, subsequent questioning of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) staff by Senator Murkowski at a Senate Indian Affairs Committee Hearing on February 08, 2017, revealed that the agency has a policy that "slow developing disasters" and damage caused by melting permafrost are not considered "disasters" eligible for federal assistance; and
- WHEREAS:** in that hearing, FEMA officials promised Senator Murkowski to develop a policy to address slow-developing disasters such as are occurring in Newtok and Kivalina, but have not come forward with any proposals.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives that the FEMA should propose new policies that would recognize "slow-developing" disasters and melting permafrost that are causing catastrophic impacts to communities and crucial infrastructure and other culturally relevant sites as "disasters" eligible for assistance under the Stafford Act, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that AFN supports the amendment of the Stafford Act to define “disaster” to include “slow-developing” disasters and melting permafrost damage.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY:	NEWTOK VILLAGE
COMMITTEE ACTION:	COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION:	AMENDED AND PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-4

TITLE: CALLING FOR THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TO INVESTIGATE AND REPORT THE USE OF EXCESSIVE AND DEADLY FORCE, ILLEGAL TRAFFIC STOPS, HOME INVASIONS, AND DISPROPORTIONATE FINES IN ALASKA

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and

WHEREAS: the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and

WHEREAS: there have been repeated incidents of civil rights violations of Alaska residents by state law enforcement personnel through the use of excessive force and other means; and

WHEREAS: it has been reported that Alaska law enforcement personnel have routinely violated the Fourth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution by stopping residents, including Native persons, without reasonable suspicion; arresting Native people without probable cause; and by using unwarranted deadly force against Alaska residents; and

WHEREAS: the constitutional violations cited immediately above have caused some rural Native villages to distrust state law enforcement agencies and personnel; and

WHEREAS: the loss of confidence in public safety response and procedure has caused rural Alaska residents to avoid contacting law enforcement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives that AFN requests the U.S. Department of Justice to conduct a civil rights investigation into the Alaska law enforcement.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY: UKPEAĠVIK IÑUPIAT CORPORATION
COMMITTEE ACTION: ASKED FOR LEGAL REVIEW ON OCT 5 - COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED
RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION: PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-5

TITLE: RECLASSIFICATION OF IHS BUDGET TO MANDATORY SPENDING PROGRAM

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and

WHEREAS: the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and

WHEREAS: the US government has a trust responsibility to tribes that establishes a legal obligation to provide economic and social programs necessary to raise the standard of living and well-being of the Indian people to a level comparable to non-Indian society; and

WHEREAS: “Federal health services to maintain and improve the health of the Indians are consonant with and required by the Federal Government’s historical and unique legal relationship with, and resulting responsibility to, the American Indian people...to assure the highest possible health status for Indians...and to provide all resources necessary to effect that policy”; and

WHEREAS: Alaska Native health care programs have fallen under the category of discretionary spending and as a consequence have been subject to the willingness of Congress and the president to provide appropriate funding; and

WHEREAS: Alaska Native health care programs have been chronically underfunded and are funded at levels dramatically lower than those of other government healthcare programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives that AFN will advocate for existing Alaska Native and American Indian health care budgets be fully funded to meet the needs of Alaska Native and American Indian people and to be classified as mandatory spending programs with a form of automatic annual adjustment to account for inflation and increased eligibility at similar levels to other federal healthcare programs.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY: TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE
COMMITTEE ACTION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION
FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION: AMENDED AND PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-6

- TITLE:** SUPPORT ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR THE NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION ACT HOUSING PROGRAMS IN FISCAL YEAR 2018 APPROPRIATIONS
- WHEREAS:** The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and
- WHEREAS:** the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and
- WHEREAS:** the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) created the Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) and the Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG), which are the primary sources of funding for affordable housing for Alaska Native and American Indian (AI/AN) families; and
- WHEREAS:** NAHASDA allocates approximately \$98 million each year to Alaskan tribes and communities and is the primary vehicle for meeting critical housing needs; and
- WHEREAS:** Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) are sophisticated in leveraging funds to develop projects with multi-layered funding sources and NAHASDA is the foundation for building complex funding packages; and
- WHEREAS:** the housing needs in Indian country simply cannot be met without support for additional funding secured for the IHBG and ICDBG programs; and
- WHEREAS:** annual funding for the IHBG authorized pursuant to NAHASDA has remained flat at around \$650 million since fiscal year (FY) 2010, while housing needs and shortages continue to rapidly grow; and
- WHEREAS:** using the Social Security rate of inflation, the compounded inflation rate since NAHASDA's inception in 1998 has reduced the purchasing power of a \$650 million appropriation by approximately 50%; and
- WHEREAS:** safe, affordable, quality housing is the very foundation for sustainable, healthy communities and the underpinning of success for most Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Indian Health Service (IHS) programs; and
- WHEREAS:** in 2016, BIA received a 7.5% budget increase and in 2017 IHS received a 7.9% budget increase, while funding for NAHASDA remained flat again in 2016 and received less than .65% increase for 2017; and
- WHEREAS:** NAHASDA and other AI/AN housing programs have a unique legal and equitable justification for discrete consideration apart from actions taken relative to other

federally funded programs within the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of Alaska Federation of Natives that AFN urges the U.S. Congress to authorize funding for the IHBG at no less than \$700 million, with subsequent fiscal year increases of \$50 million per year until inflationary reductions have been recovered; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the U.S. Congress authorize funding for the ICDBG at no less than \$100 million.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY:	COUNCIL ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES AND BRISTOL BAY NATIVE ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE ACTION:	COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION:	PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-7

TITLE: SUPPORT THE IMMEDIATE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION ACT

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and

WHEREAS: the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and

WHEREAS: the lack of safe, sanitary and affordable housing plagues nearly every urban city and rural community in Alaska; and

WHEREAS: the availability of safe, sanitary and affordable housing is critical for the survival of Alaska Native cultures; and

WHEREAS: living in substandard housing negatively impacts health and wellness outcomes for the families who occupy them; and

WHEREAS: the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) created the Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) program specifically to benefit Alaska Native and American Indian communities and to promote the wellbeing of Native peoples; and

WHEREAS: NAHASDA's current authorization expired on September 30, 2013, and the Act may be viewed as a lesser funding priority because it remains an unauthorized program, which in turn causes private investors to shy away from investing in Native communities; and

WHEREAS: NAHASDA allocates roughly \$98 million each year to Alaskan tribes and communities and is the primary vehicle for meeting critical housing needs; and

WHEREAS: NAHASDA empowers tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs), or Regional Housing Authorities, with local decision making to create housing programs that meet each respective region or community's needs; and

WHEREAS: private sector housing construction and development in rural Alaska is almost non-existent.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of Alaska Federation of Natives that AFN urges the U.S. Congress to act swiftly to reauthorize the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act in the current congress with tribes exercising the authority of self-governance.



Julie E. Kitka

Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY: COUNCIL FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES AND BRISTOL
BAY NATIVE ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE ACTION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION
FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION: AMENDED AND PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-8

TITLE: SUPPORT THE PASSAGE OF SENATE BILL S.1333, A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR RENTAL ASSISTANCE FOR HOMELESS OR AT-RISK INDIAN VETERANS (TRIBAL HUD-VASH ACT OF 2017)

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and

WHEREAS: the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and

WHEREAS: the United States Senate has introduced S.1333 to establish and expand the Tribal Housing and Urban Development Veterans Administration Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program; and

WHEREAS: the Tribal HUD-VASH is intended to provide rental assistance, case management, and clinical supportive services for Alaska Native and American Indian veterans who are homeless or at risk of homelessness; and

WHEREAS: Native Americans play an integral role in the United States Armed Forces, and have served in the military at a higher rate than any other group; and

WHEREAS: the Tribal HUD-VASH demonstration has been successful for a number of tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities; however, there have been many challenges in implementing the demonstration program in Alaska; and

WHEREAS: Senate bill S.133 will address many of the challenges of the Tribal HUD-VASH demonstration program, and will have a positive impact in tribal communities; and

WHEREAS: if passed, the Tribal HUD-VASH Program will provide stability to the veteran families already receiving assistance under the demonstration program and expand the program to serve more tribal veterans.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of Alaska Federation of Natives, that AFN urges the U.S. Congress to act swiftly to pass Senate Bill S.1333 in the current congress.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY: COUNCIL FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES AND BRISTOL
BAY NATIVE ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE ACTION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION
FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION: PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-9

TITLE: INCREASE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE FUNDS TO SCREEN AND TREAT HEPATITIS C

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and

WHEREAS: the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and

WHEREAS: the Hepatitis C virus (HCV) is a chronic infection and a deadly disease that left untreated destroys the liver; and

WHEREAS: most recent national data show American Indian/Alaska Native people with both the highest rate of acute HCV infection and the highest HCV-related mortality rate of any U.S. racial/ethnic group; and

WHEREAS: new medications can reliably cure HCV with few adverse effects; and

WHEREAS: new drug regimens have made early detection and treatment of HCV critical; and

WHEREAS: curing a patient of HCV greatly reduces the risk of liver cancer and liver failure; and

WHEREAS: HCV drugs aren't on the IHS formulary, so clinicians must spend considerable time mounting often unsuccessful attempts to get third-party payers such as private insurers, Medicaid, and patient-assistance programs for reimbursement; and

WHEREAS: the Veterans Affairs received additional resources for Hepatitis C and consequently implemented a program supported by funding and resources, resulting in VA clinicians being able to provide treatment for all their patients with HCV, whereas IHS clinicians cannot; and

WHEREAS: American Indian nations deserve the same quality of care and the same level of resources as the VA, particularly since the IHS serves the population with the highest HCV-related mortality and highest incidence of acute HCV in the country.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives that AFN will advocate for the IHS, the Administration, and Congress to work together to provide supplemental funding to add new HCV medications to its IHS' National Core Formulary.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY: ALASKA NATIVE HEALTH BOARD
COMMITTEE ACTION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION
FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION: PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-10

TITLE: SUPPORT FULL FUNDING OF SECTION 1459A OF THE SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT AS AMENDED BY THE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE NATION (WIIN) ACT OF 2016

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and

WHEREAS: the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and

WHEREAS: one-fifth of communities in rural Alaska and 31 villages are unserved by water and sewer services; and

WHEREAS: the rate of hospitalization for pneumonia, influenza, skin infections, and lower respiratory tract infections is multiple times higher for Alaska Native infants in communities with inadequate sanitation services compared to similar communities with adequate facilities and the general U.S. population; and

WHEREAS: current federal funding sources for rural water and sewer infrastructure are not adequate to address the unique situation of underserved communities in rural Alaska; and

WHEREAS: investments in these communities are necessary for public water systems to comply with the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA); and

WHEREAS: residents of rural Alaska have the same right to safe drinking water and proper sanitation facilities as their fellow citizens in other states; and

WHEREAS: Section 1459A of the SDWA authorizes Congress to appropriate \$60 million annually in 2017-2021 for sanitation projects in small and disadvantaged communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of Alaska Federation of Natives that AFN urges the U.S. Congress to fund Section 1459A of the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended by the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act of 2016, at its fully authorized level.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY:
COMMITTEE ACTION:
CONVENTION ACTION:

COUNCIL ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION
FOR CONSIDERATION
PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-11

TITLE: SUPPORT FOR REAUTHORIZATION OF THE USDA RURAL ALASKA VILLAGE GRANT SANITATION FACILITIES PROGRAM

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and

WHEREAS: the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and

WHEREAS: Alaska ranks last in water and sewer infrastructure in the country; and

WHEREAS: twenty percent of communities in rural Alaska and 31 villages are unserved by water and sewer service; and

WHEREAS: the rate of hospitalization for pneumonia, influenza, skin infections, and lower respiratory tract infections is significantly higher for Alaska Native infants in communities with inadequate sanitation services as compared to similar populations in communities with adequate facilities, and significantly higher than the general U.S. population; and

WHEREAS: Healthy Alaskans 2020 has set a target of increasing the proportion of rural households with in-home water and wastewater services to 87% of Alaska's rural communities; and

WHEREAS: authority for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Alaska Village Grant Program expires September 30, 2018; and

WHEREAS: the program plays a critical role in authorizing funding for water and sewer infrastructure in rural Alaska; and

WHEREAS: elimination of the program would have an immediate and severe negative impact on public health in rural communities; and

WHEREAS: Alaska Natives have the same right to safe drinking water as their fellow citizens in other States.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates to the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives that AFN urges the U.S. Congress to reauthorize the USDA Rural Alaska Village Grant Program in the Farm Bill reauthorization.



Julie E. Kitka

Julie Kitka

President

SUBMITTED BY:	COUNCIL ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES
COMMITTEE ACTION:	COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION:	PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-12

- TITLE:** TO ENSURE LONG-TERM VIABILITY OF THE RURAL HEALTH CARE PROGRAM AND IMPROVE BROADBAND ACCESS
- WHEREAS:** The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and
- WHEREAS:** the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and
- WHEREAS:** Alaska’s large size, varied terrain, harsh climate, isolated populations, and lack of infrastructure are well-known challenges to providing health services in the state; for remote parts of the state, in particular, these challenges can translate into high costs of service, including high healthcare-related communications services; the geography of tribes, nations, and villages is such that wireline solutions are expensive and slow to expand, causing our communities to increasingly rely on wireless technology; and
- WHEREAS:** the Rural Health Care Program (RHC Program) operated by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) has offered support that helps to reduce the costs of these services, indeed “the Program is essential for allowing providers to deliver affordable, world-class care to those living in rural and Bush communities, while saving patients the high costs associated with travel to urban medical centers”; and
- WHEREAS:** the RHC Program has a cap of \$400 million per funding year to provide support for telecommunications and broadband services to eligible health care providers (HCPs) through the Telecommunications (Telecom) and Healthcare Connect Fund (HCF) Programs; and
- WHEREAS:** under the Telecom Program, eligible HCPs and consortia may apply for discounts for eligible telecommunications services; meanwhile, the HCF Program provides support for high-capacity broadband connectivity to eligible HCPs by providing a 65 percent discount on all eligible expenses; and
- WHEREAS:** the \$400 million cap is not mandated by the Telecommunications Act that authorizes the program, but is rather implemented as an administrative cap on a program that, with more funding, could continue to improve health outcomes and save lives in a wide range of rural communities in the United States, including Indian Country and for Alaska Natives; and
- WHEREAS:** the FCC has made substantial efforts to grow interest and demand for this important program, but the \$400 million cap has remained in place for 20 years; and
- WHEREAS:** for the first time in its history, qualifying demand for RHC Program support exceeded the RHC Program cap during funding year 2016; unlike the e-rate used to subsidize

educational uses of telecommunications and broadband services, the RHC Program was not inflation proofed and has not increased since its inception in 1997; and

WHEREAS: in 2016, the Federal Communication Commission issued a one-time waiver to allow Alaskan service providers to change their pricing voluntarily to offset the disproportionate hardship to HCP in rural areas; this is not a permanent fix; and

WHEREAS: without a change to the RHC Program cap or without being indexed for inflation, the increase in cost to Rural Healthcare Providers will be tenfold and will impact RHCPs across the country.

WHEREAS: connectivity is now mission critical to delivering healthcare in remote communities for delivery of care, telehealth, operations, compliance, and accreditation; the expansion of broadband into Indian Country and Native Communities is a vital issue to American Indian and Alaska Native tribes; as a general matter, tribal communities still lag far behind other remote and rural communities for telecommunications infrastructure, access, and opportunities; and

WHEREAS: broadband infrastructure expansion will be accelerated by removing funding caps and increasing the RHC Program, making rural communities healthier and more resilient; and

WHEREAS: the FCC must protect and fulfill the trust responsibility to tribes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives to advocate for steps to be taken to ensure both the near and long-term viability of the Rural Health Care Program to meet the increased demand for telemedicine services both in Alaska and across the country; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that AFN calls on the FCC to raise the \$400 million cap on the Rural Health Care Program and implement an inflation adjustment mechanism, thus keeping pace with program demand and eliminating future pro rata funding shortfalls and allowing RHC Program funding recipients certainty as they plan their health programs.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY:	TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE AND ALASKA NATIVE HEALTH BOARD
COMMITTEE ACTION:	COMBINED WITH SIMILAR RESOLUTION AND COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION:	PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-13

TITLE: SUPPORT FOR THE VILLAGE PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER PROGRAM AND THE RETENTION OF UNSPENT FUNDS

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and

WHEREAS: the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and

WHEREAS: the communities in ten regions of Alaska are dependent on the law enforcement and public safety services provided by the Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) Program; and

WHEREAS: the VPSO Program is vital to the survival of our communities, many of which suffer from disproportionate rates of crime; and

WHEREAS: the call for an audit of the VPSO Program by urban legislators concerned about the share of spending that goes into indirect costs such as housing shows a fundamental misunderstanding of life in rural Alaska and should not result in any cuts to the program; and

WHEREAS: the VPSO Program's funding needs to be protected at the level it currently stands with added discretion to use unspent contract funds on unfunded mandates; and

WHEREAS: recruitment and retention needs to be examined to identify barriers and a plan to overcome those barriers; and

WHEREAS: the 2012 recommendations of the Alaska Rural Justice and Law Enforcement Commission need to be reexamined and a renewed commitment to the delivery of justice and law enforcement in rural Alaska be established; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual AFN Convention that rather than returning unspent VPSO contract funds at the end of the fiscal year that would be returned to the State's general fund, carryover funds should be reflected in new contracts and reprogrammed back to their respective regions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives that AFN supports the Village Public Safety Officer Program and its mission of VPSOs partnering with rural Alaskans to improve safety and quality of life.



Julie Kitka, President

SUBMITTED BY:

COMMITTEE ACTION:

CONVENTION ACTION:

COUNCIL ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES

REFER TO BOARD FOR CLARIFICATION AND NEW LANGUAGE. AFN

BOARD APPROVED TO SEND TO CONVENTION FOR CONSIDERATION..

PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-14

- TITLE:** REQUESTING STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDING TO ENSURE ACCESS TO CULTURALLY RELEVANT DRUG AND ALCOHOL TREATMENT PROGRAMS TO RESTORE VIBRANT ALASKA NATIVE COMMUNITIES
- WHEREAS:** The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and
- WHEREAS:** the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and
- WHEREAS:** alcohol and drug abuse remain persistent problems in Alaska, with impacts on every facet of life including but not limited to individual and community physical, mental and spiritual wellness; child welfare and education; public safety; and economic development; and
- WHEREAS:** more than 95% of all crimes committed in rural Alaska can be attributed to alcohol; and
- WHEREAS:** the suicide rate among Alaska Native people is almost four times the national average, and is at least six times the national average in some parts of the state; and
- WHEREAS:** the alcohol abuse-related mortality rate for Alaska Natives from 2004-2008 was 16.1 times higher than the rate for the American white population over the same period; and
- WHEREAS:** opportunities to undergo drug and alcohol treatment within the Alaska are extremely limited; and
- WHEREAS:** the federal government has a trust responsibility to ensure that Alaska Native people have access to health and social services, including comprehensive treatment to assist them with all stages of recovery from drug or alcohol abuse, from screening through support to maintain sobriety; and
- WHEREAS:** the State of Alaska has the solemn duty to promote and protect the public health and welfare; and
- WHEREAS:** the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives are grateful for the funding the state and the federal governments have provided to facilitate the development and maintenance of drug and alcohol treatment programs including regionally appropriate cultural training for providers, but recognize the urgent need for additional funding in order to meet the demand for these programs in the State of Alaska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives that the state and federal governments provide funding for new and existing culturally relevant drug and alcohol treatment programs in the State of Alaska; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state and federal funds be distributed without competitive grant requirements and in a manner that promotes maximum Alaska Native decision-making every step of the way in the planning, development and operation of the drug and alcohol treatment programs.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY:	COUNCIL ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES
COMMITTEE ACTION:	AFN BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVED TO SEND RESOLUTION TO CONVENTION FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION:	AMENDED AND PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-15

- TITLE:** A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM AND ENCOURAGING LEGISLATORS TO SHIFT PRIORITIES FOR PUBLIC SAFETY
- WHEREAS:** The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and
- WHEREAS:** the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and
- WHEREAS:** the root causes of the current public safety crisis are the opioid epidemic and the lack of funds that would allow for the sustainable funding of prosecutors, law enforcement officers, and critical behavioral and mental health services; and
- WHEREAS:** criminal justice reform is good and necessary policy, which garnered bipartisan support by modernizing our criminal justice system, diverting nonviolent drug offenders toward treatment and focusing on crime prevention to curb the epidemic of alcohol and drug abuse; and
- WHEREAS:** while the remaining components of SB91 go into effect and the Legislature works to fund the increased expenses incurred by SB54, the lack of funding remains the single greatest impediment to implementing solutions that make Alaskans safer; and
- WHEREAS:** there are important changes being considered currently in the Legislature in Senate Bill 54 that would address some of the most commonly heard complaints about crime currently, including vehicle theft, burglary, and shoplifting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of Alaska Federation of Natives that AFN shall strengthen criminal justice reform by joining with stakeholder and government partners to jointly encourage the Legislature to quickly pass Senate Bill 54 and to focus on the root causes of crime. We encourage the Legislature to appropriate funds for prosecutors, troopers, VPSO's and critical behavioral and mental health services.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY:
COMMITTEE ACTION:
CONVENTION ACTION:

COUNCIL FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES
BOARD APPROVED TO SEND TO CONVENTION FOR CONSIDERATION
AMENDED AND PASSED

EDUCATION



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-16

- TITLE:** A RESOLUTION REQUESTING CHANGES TO THE FEDERAL AND STATE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES IN REGARDS TO TRIBAL HEAD START PROGRAMS
- WHEREAS:** The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and
- WHEREAS:** the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and
- WHEREAS:** essential to the survival of our indigenous languages and cultures is the ability to engage traditional speakers and culture bearers in the HS/EHS programs as teachers and teacher assistants. The current regulations under 45 CFR Chapter XIII Head Start Performance Standards for meeting the qualification requirements for education coordinators, teachers and teacher assistants are creating immense challenges for tribal programs. Villages and Tribes should have the ability to determine the proficiency of staff or tribal members working with infants/toddlers and preschoolers; and
- WHEREAS:** compulsory use of the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) is required by the Office of Head Start to be included as part of ongoing reviews. Tribal Head Start programs are concerned that the “principles of scientific research” for supporting the assessment approach have not been tested with Alaska Native and American Indian populations, and therefore the reliability and validity of such assessments being used to measure teacher performance and educational activities with Native children is suspect; and
- WHEREAS:** Alaska Native Head Start programs are having great difficulty in recruiting and retaining teachers, teacher assistants, and other educational positions with CDA’s, A.A.’s, and B.A.’s. It would be beneficial to have the Office of Head Start provide waivers for these degrees at least until the federal government can increase funding to be able to compensate these positions equitably; and
- WHEREAS:** in Alaska, it is difficult to recruit and enroll income eligible head start students due to the federal eligibility requirement based on the federal poverty guidelines the enrollment of alaska native head start programs would significantly improve if the income eligibility would be in alignment with actual poverty of alaskans by taking into account the high costs of living in urban and rural alaska; and
- WHEREAS:** pursuant to the Head Start Act section 645(d)(3), any American Indian and Alaska Native grantee that operates both an Early Head Start program (birth – 3yrs) and a Head Start program (3 yrs – 5 yrs) may reallocate funds between the programs at its discretion and at any time during the grant period involved, in order to address fluctuations in client populations. However, the practice of the Office of Head Start is not in alignment with the Head Start Act. It would be beneficial for tribal programs to be able to reallocate those funds based upon the program’s discretion not the Office of Head Start; and

WHEREAS: departments within the State of Alaska are responsible for overseeing educational programs and child care licensing. Head Start and Early Head Start programs fall under two different State of Alaska departments. The federal reviews conducted on Head Start programs include the Early Head Start component as well. This state created division establishes great difficulty for programs operating both. It would be beneficial for the state to also include the birth to 3 component as part of the Head Start program, allowing for a licensing exemption.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives that AFN supports the proposed changes to federal policy and procedure in regards to AIAN Head Start programs; and

BE IT RESOLVED that AFN respectfully requests the federal government establish 638 compacts and contracts in accordance with the Indian Self-Determination and Education Act allowing Native tribes and tribal organizations to acquire increased control over the management of federal Head Start programs that impact their members; and

BE IT RESOLVED that AFN encourages the State of Alaska to acknowledge Head Start and Early Head Start as one continuous birth to 5 early learning program, and not only allow Head Start a licensing exemption, but to also include Early Head Start in licensure exemptions based upon extensive federal oversight.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that AFN requests the state of Alaska to consult with tribes and tribal organizations regarding the oversight of the education programming for head start and its child care licensing.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that AFN respectfully requests the federal government allow for eligibility adjustments for programs within the State of Alaska to account for the wages and high costs of living in both urban and rural communities.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY:	COOK INLET NATIVE HEAD START
COMMITTEE ACTION:	COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION:	AMENDED AND PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-18

- TITLE:** ENSURING ALASKA NATIVE STUDENT SUCCESS IN ALASKA
- WHEREAS:** The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and
- WHEREAS:** the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and
- WHEREAS:** one of AFN’s major goals is to promote and advocate for programs and systems which instill pride and confidence in individual Alaska Natives; and
- WHEREAS:** the Alaska Association of School Boards (AASB) recognizes the fact that Alaska’s public schools need to provide an equitable and relevant education to all students that prioritizes social justice and advocacy; and
- WHEREAS:** AASB recognizes the predictability of disparity in achievement based on race or ethnicity; and
- WHEREAS:** the first long-range goal (2015-2018) of AASB is to: “...empower boards to increase the academic success of Alaska Native students and increase graduation rates of Alaska Native students who are grounded in their cultural identity with the ability to successfully pursue their goals;” and
- WHEREAS:** AFN strives to deliberately act to eliminate such gaps, policies, practices and structures that perpetuate inequities based on race and support the elimination of the factors that predict disparity; and
- WHEREAS:** AFN recognizes that systemic changes in formal schooling need to occur in order for achievement to increase, and recognizes the need for equitable delivery of education revolving around giving every student what he or she needs to achieve success.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that AFN urges the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) to support regionally-implemented immersive cultural training and programs through Alaska Studies and Cross Cultural Communication professional development courses. Furthermore, AFN urges DEED to provide for the development of regionally and locally relevant elementary and secondary curriculum, which includes Alaska’s History from the Alaska Native perspective; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** AFN also urges the University of Alaska College of Education (COE) to support local teacher preparation programs that grow our own teachers as well as supporting regional campuses in offering regionally-relevant Alaska Studies and Cross Cultural Communication courses.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives that AFN support changes in systems to allow for increased Alaska Native student success.



Julie E. Kitka

Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY:

COMMITTEE ACTION:

CONVENTION ACTION:

COUNCIL ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION
FOR CONSIDERATION

AMENDED AND PASSED

LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 AFN CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-19

TITLE: SUPPORTING ALASKA NATIVE VETERANS LAND ALLOTMENT EQUITY ACT, HR 1867, AND S. 785

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and

WHEREAS: the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and

WHEREAS: Alaska Natives and Native Americans “have a long and proud history of military service, serving in greater numbers on a per capita basis than any other ethnic group in the United States of America;” and

WHEREAS: more than 42,000 Alaska Natives and Native Americans served in the military in the Vietnam Era, and over 90% of these service men and women enlisted as opposed to being drafted; and

WHEREAS: while the Vietnam War was being fought, our Alaska Native land rights were being settled by Congress, Section 18 of P. L. 92-203, Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 (ANCSA), extinguished the applicability of the Alaska Native Allotment Act of 1906 as far as the Alaska Natives are concerned; and

WHEREAS: HR 1867 and S. 785, both entitled “the Alaska Native Veterans Land Allotment Equity Act,” were introduced during the first session of the 115th Congress by Congressman Don Young in the U. S. House of Representatives, and by Senator Dan Sullivan, co-sponsored by Senator Lisa Murkowski, in the U. S. Senate, respectively; and

WHEREAS: these bills would authorize the Alaska Native veterans of the Vietnam War Era to apply for Native Allotments in Alaska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives hereby urges the 115th Congress to enact HR 1867 and S. 785, the Alaska Native Veterans Land Allotment Equity Act, into law before the 115th Congress adjourns sine die.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY: ALASKA NATIVE VETERANS COUNCIL
COMMITTEE ACTION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION
FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION: PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-20

- TITLE: IN SUPPORT OF CREATING AN OIL SPILL RESPONSE INITIATIVE
- WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and
- WHEREAS: the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and
- WHEREAS: an increase in offshore vessel and tanker traffic is occurring, and with that, the increased potential for a catastrophic oil or contaminants spill; and
- WHEREAS: such a spill would have severe impacts on the ocean, coastal and riverine environments, as well as to any subsistence resources that may occupy those environments; and
- WHEREAS: Tribes and communities throughout Alaska are ill-prepared to handle and do not have the resources available to help mitigate such a disaster.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives that AFN supports the commitment of greater attention and increased resources by responsible federal and State of Alaska officials in order to address the common concern with regards to preparedness for, responses to, and recovery from spills of oil and hazardous substances that is shared among those whose existence is reliant upon the well-being of our coastal areas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that AFN is to take all measures possible to facilitate an initiative for marine spill prevention and response along Alaska's coasts.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY: AVCP
COMMITTEE ACTION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION
FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION: PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-22

- TITLE:** DEVELOP A STRONGER STATE ACTION PLAN FOR FLOODING AND EROSION
- WHEREAS:** The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and
- WHEREAS:** the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and
- WHEREAS:** flooding and erosion mitigation, flooding and erosion from climate impacts along all waterways and in wetlands, flooding and erosion prevention control have been identified as critical issues throughout AFN's member communities; and
- WHEREAS:** the 2009 report of the Immediate Action Work Group (IAWG), a Subcabinet on Climate Change within the Office of the Governor of Alaska, identified four steps to address erosion including:
- Step 1: Begin by developing a collaborative organizational structure that can focus the combined capabilities of local, regional, state, and federal stakeholders on the problems at hand.
 - Step 2: Discuss the nature and extent of the potential climate change impacts and create an applied approach to addressing significant impacts, as described in Step 3.
 - Step 3: Identify the communities at risk, timeframe, and the true needs to address climate change impacts.
 - Step 4: Develop measures that meet the stated needs and combine those measures into alternative plans for comparison; and
- WHEREAS:** the IAWG also identified critical infrastructure investment needs to address Alaska community's needs; and
- WHEREAS:** the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which is the federal agency tasked with helping rural Alaska communities faced with negative implications of climate change and erosion, proposes significant cuts in its fiscal year (FY) 2018 budget, including a complete funding cut to Coastal Resilience Grants; and
- WHEREAS:** AFN recently addressed the issue of erosion and climate change impacts through resolutions 2015-24 and 2016-22, the key of which are still are relevant points for advocacy today; and

WHEREAS: there is a dire and immediate need to develop emergency plans and relocation plans; leverage and collaborate with private and public funding sources; and advocate for those needs statewide and nationally.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives that AFN urges the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Homeland Security, FEMA and NOAA to work with AFN and its member communities to develop stronger tribal erosion programs and offer adaptation and action plans to address erosion and disaster preparedness; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that AFN agrees with and urges our state legislature and federal congressional delegation to continue the work and reinvigorate the subcommittee on climate change consider the immediate action funding recommendations for all of the identified communities as identified by the IAWG.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY:	COUNCIL ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES
COMMITTEE ACTION:	COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION:	AMENDED AND PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-23

- TITLE:** SUPPORT LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION COOPERATIVES
- WHEREAS:** The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and
- WHEREAS:** the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and
- WHEREAS:** Alaskan Native people have a deep cultural reliance on the harvesting and sharing of marine resources for subsistence. Alaska Native people benefited from these waters for thousands of years. Traditional practices tie families together through the passing of knowledge from generation to the next; and
- WHEREAS:** the Department of Interior’s Landscape Conservation Cooperative (LCC) Networks have played an important role in advancing western science and traditional knowledge with our local communities that are continually struggling to adapt to increasingly unpredictable and dangerous environments due to climate change; and
- WHEREAS:** the LCC’s have been in meetings with scientific and technical expertise, and institutionalized state and tribal input in landscape collaborations and projects. They have done an exceptional job in leveraging non-governmental resources by building strong public/private partnerships, supporting local stewardships and economic and resource development, and fighting for long-term sustainability of our important subsistence resources such as fisheries; and
- WHEREAS:** LCC’s have conducted coastal resilience workshops which involved coastal Alaska Native communities in their research of the historical and current knowledge of our environments, through which we gained more information to improve the habitat conditions; and
- WHEREAS:** the elimination, decrease in funding or reduction in services of the LCC Network will negatively affect the ability to identify, track and conserve vital ecosystem services that are important to all of Alaska; and
- WHEREAS:** communications among communities, governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations, industry personnel, universities and other stakeholders would be hindered greatly.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of Alaska Federation of Natives that they support LCCs to continue their work with other partnership funding opportunities, and that the President and the U.S. Congress are urged to fully support continuation of proper funding for the LCCs in Alaska and the other states.



Julie E. Kitka

Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY:	BRISTOL BAY NATIVE ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE ACTION:	SENT TO BOARD FOR REVIEW. AFN BOARD APPROVED TO SEND TO CONVENTION FOR CONSIDERATION.
CONVENTION ACTION:	AMENDED AND PASSED

ECONOMIC



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-24

TITLE: SUPPORT FOR THE ALASKA RAILBELT ELECTRICAL INTERTIE PROJECT

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and

WHEREAS: the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and

WHEREAS: the Alaska Federation of Natives supports the work and economic well-being of our member tribes and recognizes that lower energy costs in Alaska will promote economic development and long-term sustainability for our communities; and

WHEREAS: small communities on the Alaska road system in both the Ahtna and TCC region that are not connected to the railbelt electric grid use micro-grid systems that have poor economies of scale and utilize expensive diesel fuel for electrical generation, this means that costs go up and down in accordance with world oil prices and are completely out of the control of tribes; and

WHEREAS: we believe that if a transmission intertie with the Alaskan railbelt electrical system, currently connecting Fairbanks and Anchorage, can be completed it will significantly lower long-term energy costs for tribes that are on the Alaska road-system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives that AFN believes that a railbelt inter-tie from Palmer-Glennallen-Delta with a connecting lower KV_a line between Glennallen-Tok-Delta represents the most immediate and cost effective method of bringing reasonably priced electricity to these regions that are along the Alaskan road-belt; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that AFN supports the funding of a feasibility study to plan and evaluate this important infrastructure route by the U.S. Dept. of Energy, Office of Indian Energy. This feasibility study will bring our communities one step closer to lower energy costs and support economic development in native communities affected by this project.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY:	TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE
COMMITTEE ACTION:	COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION:	PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-25

- TITLE:** A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR ESKIMO WALRUS COMMISSION'S OPPOSITION OF INCLUDING LEGALLY OBTAINED WALRUS, MAMMOTH, AND MASTODON IVORY IN AFRICAN ELEPHANT IVORY BAN LAWS IN THE UNITED STATES
- WHEREAS:** The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and
- WHEREAS:** the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and
- WHEREAS:** the use of legally acquired walrus, mammoth, and mastodon ivory by Alaska Native carvers to create tools, handicrafts, jewelry, and artwork is a longstanding cultural tradition that continues to be a vital component of Alaska Native culture today; and
- WHEREAS:** the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) explicitly protects the right of coastal Alaska Natives to harvest marine mammals and utilize their by-products in handicrafts for sale in the United States; and
- WHEREAS:** the sale of walrus, mammoth, and mastodon ivory tools, handicrafts, jewelry, and artwork by Alaska Natives is an important source of income in the cash-limited economies of rural Alaska; and
- WHEREAS:** in an effort to stem the poaching of African elephants, various U.S. states have passed laws banning the sale, use, or possession of all ivory, and additional states are considering such laws; and
- WHEREAS:** these ivory ban laws fail to acknowledge the difference between African elephant ivory and legally acquired walrus, mammoth, and mastodon ivory used by Alaska Native artists; and
- WHEREAS:** these ivory ban state laws may cause residents of those states to face prosecution for buying, owning, or bringing home legally acquired ivory from Alaska; and
- WHEREAS:** these ivory ban state laws are negatively impacting Alaska Native artists who depend on the sale of their handicrafts as a source of important income in a cash-limited economy.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives that AFN opposes the inclusion of legally obtained walrus, mammoth, and mastodon ivory in ivory ban laws; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that AFN requests that walrus, mammoth, and mastodon ivory be exempted from current and future ivory ban laws in the United States.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that AFN urges congress to enact legislation preventing individual states from banning walrus, mammoth, and mastodon ivory.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY:	NATIVE VILLAGE OF SAVOONGA
COMMITTEE ACTION:	COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION:	AMENDED AND PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-26

- TITLE: URGING FULL FUNDING FOR THE ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY SYSTEM
- WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and
- WHEREAS: the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and
- WHEREAS: many Alaska communities are accessible only by water or air; and
- WHEREAS: the Alaska Marine Highway System provides essential services to more than 35 coastal communities in Alaska; and
- WHEREAS: those essential services include transportation for: medical services; shopping; job opportunities; school educational trips; tourism; vacations; and cultural activities; and
- WHEREAS: the Alaska communities also benefit from coastal residents spending money and purchasing items when traveling to these and other hub communities; and
- WHEREAS: the Alaska Legislature has failed to provide full funding for the Alaska Marine Highway System to continue operations through the end of fiscal year 2018; and
- WHEREAS: the Alaska Legislature has failed to provide funding for the Alaska Marine Highway System to continue operations for two consecutive years which is critical for the Alaska Marine Highway System long-term planning and day-to-day operations; and
- WHEREAS: a shutdown of the Alaska Marine Highway System would have devastating and unavoidable impacts on those communities it serves.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives that AFN hereby urges the Alaska State Legislature to provide full funding to enable the Alaska Marine Highway System to continue operations and in the event that full funding is not provided due to the State budget process being stalled, a baseline allocation would be made to ensure the system could operate until the time full funding is provided; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that AFN takes all necessary steps to implement this resolution immediately.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY: THE EYAK CORPORATION; NATIVE VILLAGE OF EYAK
COMMITTEE ACTION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION
FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION: AMENDED AND PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-27

TITLE: A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FULLY FUNDING ESSENTIAL AIR SERVICES FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES IN ALASKA AND THE REST OF THE UNITED STATES

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and

WHEREAS: the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and

WHEREAS: approximately 175 communities in the United States, including approximately 60 in Alaska, benefit from the Essential Air Service Program under 49 U.S.C. 41731-41748; and

WHEREAS: the Essential Air Service Program provides critical passenger, cargo, and mail services to remote communities in rural Alaska; and

WHEREAS: air travel for remote communities, and much of rural Alaska, provides the only available transportation to the road system and the rest of the world; and

WHEREAS: the elimination or reduction of the Essential Air Services Program would severely damage basic economic, health, and safety needs; and

WHEREAS: without the Essential Air Services Program, the people of our Region would not be able to afford travel to regional hubs, to communities on the road system, or the rest of the world.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives that AFN supports fully funding Essential Air Services for rural communities in Alaska and the rest of the United States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska Federation of Natives to direct the Alaska Congressional Delegation to support this vital program.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY: AVCP
COMMITTEE ACTION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION
FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION: AMENDED AND PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-28

- TITLE:** URGING THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE TO ADOPT A SUSTAINABLE STATE BUDGET
- WHEREAS:** The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and
- WHEREAS:** the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and
- WHEREAS:** the decline in oil revenues in recent years has led to a well-understood but slow-moving state budget crisis that has not yet been resolved; and
- WHEREAS:** recent legislatures have plugged the fiscal gap by dipping into state savings, but that reserve account will be depleted by the end of FY 2018; and
- WHEREAS:** going forward Alaska faces an approximately \$3 billion dollar annual gap between revenues and expenses, despite having capped the permanent fund dividend and cutting the budget by about 44% over the past four years; and
- WHEREAS:** after years of budget cutting and declining oil revenues, the state can no longer rely on budget cuts alone, nor should it balance the budget by cutting more services to low income families, or imposing regressive taxes such as a state sales tax; and
- WHEREAS:** cuts to the state workforce or to services are unlikely to improve the state's economy, and AFN is particularly concerned about cuts to fish and game management, children's services, education, public safety, and any cuts to services vital to rural Alaska; and
- WHEREAS:** a sustainable budget in general supports the concept of the current House Majority, which would impose a graduated income tax that would apply to seasonal and transient workers as well as state residents and would protect the permanent fund dividend at the \$1250 level; and
- WHEREAS:** Governor Bill Walker called the legislature into a special session on October 23, 2017 to address the fiscal crisis.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives will initiate efforts to educate and inform its beneficiaries of the need to achieve a sustainable budget; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that AFN will support a sound and sustainable fiscal future through (1) support of key investments in Alaska; (2) increased revenues through non-regressive tax sources including income tax; and (3) possible use of the permanent fund earnings reserve to supplement the state budget while ensuring continued dividends to its citizens; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that AFN urges our Legislature to adopt a sustainable budget plan this legislative session.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY:

COMMITTEE ACTION:

CONVENTION ACTION:

BRISTOL BAY NATIVE ASSOCIATION AND TANANA CHIEFS

COMBINE RESOLUTIONS OF SIMILAR ISSUE - COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION FOR
CONSIDERATION

AMENDED AND PASSED

ANCSA/TRIBAL



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-29

- TITLE:** LEGISLATION TO SUPPORT THE SOVEREIGN AUTHORITY OF ALASKA TRIBES TO ADMINISTER JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY IN ALASKA NATIVE VILLAGES
- WHEREAS:** The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and
- WHEREAS:** the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and
- WHEREAS:** there exists a crisis in effective and tribally-driven local law enforcement, civil regulation and judicial mechanisms in Alaska Native villages, and
- WHEREAS:** the success of Alaska Native communities ultimately depends upon maximizing their ability to determine their own futures and to govern their own communities, as a matter of fundamental self-governance and self-determination; and
- WHEREAS:** Alaska Native villages suffer disproportionately from civil disturbances and crimes rooted in alcohol abuse, illicit drug use, and domestic violence, with 95% of crimes across rural Alaska attributed to alcohol abuse (as reported in 2006 by the Alaska Rural Justice and Law Enforcement Commission); and
- WHEREAS:** Alaska Native women suffer the highest rate of forcible rape in the United States, with an Alaska Native woman raped every 18 hours; and
- WHEREAS:** the State of Alaska’s public safety and civil judicial system does not effectively serve vast areas of the State where remote Alaska Native villages are located; and
- WHEREAS:** VAWA was enacted to protect women and children, including American Indian and Alaska Native communities, and the law should be expanded and enforced to ensure that the most vulnerable in all Native communities receive justice and equal protection.
- WHEREAS:** an “Alaska” answer is needed to effectively restore tribal self-determination at the local level through the affirmation of tribal civil, regulatory, judicial and criminal jurisdiction in Alaska Native communities, without regard to land ownership and without regard to tribal citizenship or membership; and
- WHEREAS:** in October 2016, a statewide gathering of tribal leaders in Fairbanks adopted a set of principles which included a call for the “enactment of federal legislation and executive action affirming the authority of Alaska Tribal Governments to provide for civil society and the rule of law in their communities, over all persons and without regard to land ownership, coupled with enhanced Federal Government support for Alaska Tribes”; and

WHEREAS: in October 2015, Senator Lisa Murkowski called for the development of federal legislation which would confirm the authority of Alaska Native tribal governments to govern their communities; and

WHEREAS: various legislative proposals have been offered over the years to confirm the authority of Alaska Native villages to govern their communities and all persons within those communities; and

WHEREAS: the Federal Government exercises a special trust obligation to protect and enhance the governmental authorities of Alaska Native villages, and to assist in assuring that Alaska Native villages can effectively administer justice and provide safe and thriving communities; and

WHEREAS: local laws, judicial systems and law enforcement that is created and administered by Alaska tribes will be more responsive to the need for greater local control, local responsibility and local accountability in the administration of justice.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives calls upon Congress to:

1. Invoke its Constitutional authority under the Commerce Clause of the U.S. Constitution to enact legislation confirming the sovereign authority of Alaska Native Tribes over all persons within their communities without regard to land ownership;
2. enhance access to funds to support the operation of tribal governments, tribal courts and tribal law enforcement personnel; and
3. encourage maximum cooperation and collaboration between Alaska Tribes, the State of Alaska and the Federal Government in the administration of justice in Alaska Native villages.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY: TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE
COMMITTEE ACTION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION: AMENDED AND PASSED

OTHER



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-30

TITLE: CALL ON PRESIDENT TRUMP TO FULFILL PROMISE OF AMERICA FIRST FOR FIRST AMERICANS

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and

WHEREAS: the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and

WHEREAS: when President Trump withdrew the United States from the Paris Accords, he promised to put America First, and provide resources going abroad to help American communities; and

WHEREAS: the Paris Accords created the Green Climate Fund which provides communities in the Third World with funding to assist with climate mitigation, adaptation and mitigation, however, Alaskan Native communities were ineligible for such assistance because they are within the boundaries of the United States; and

WHEREAS: Article 6 of the Paris Accords committed the U.S. to contribute \$3 billion to the Green Climate Fund over six (6) years, and the United States made a \$500 million donation in 2016, and a second \$500 million in 2017 using the President's authority to re-budget/re-program federal funds; and

WHEREAS: the withdrawal from the Paris Accords created a \$500 million annual offset for the next four (4) years within the Federal budgetary system to deal with American communities being destroyed by persistent flooding, erosion, storms, and permafrost melt, including many Alaska Native Communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives to request that President Trump demonstrate his commitment to America First with regards to First Americans by re-budgeting/re-programming federal funds or seek Congressional approval of funding to provide the savings achieved from the Paris Accord withdrawal to assist Native American and Alaskan Native communities threatened with destruction by persistent floods, erosion, storms and permafrost melt.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY: NEWTOK VILLAGE
COMMITTEE ACTION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION
FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION: PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-31

- TITLE:** REQUEST THE STATE OF ALASKA COOPERATE WITH TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS OF CLIMATE THREATENED ALASKA NATIVE COMMUNITIES
- WHEREAS:** The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and
- WHEREAS:** the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and
- WHEREAS:** twelve (12) Alaskan Native communities are threatened with destruction by persistent flooding, erosion and permafrost thermal degradation and have either decided to relocate or are considering relocation; and
- WHEREAS:** road development and maintenance is a critical infrastructure need in such relocation efforts; and
- WHEREAS:** Tribal Transportation Programs are a source of road development funds for these threatened village relocation efforts, but are inadequate to meet the needs of the most severely threatened villages attempting to relocate; and
- WHEREAS:** the Denali Commission legislation permitted the transfer of up to fifteen percent (15%) of the State of Alaska's federal surface transportation funds authorized under 23 USC § 133 to aid Denali Commission priority programs; and
- WHEREAS:** the Denali Commission has made the relocation of threatened Alaska Native communities a priority; and
- WHEREAS:** transfer of such funding to the Denali Commission is only one of several means to address road infrastructure development needs of endangered Alaska Native villages, including state-tribal cooperative agreements, contracts, and grants; and
- WHEREAS:** the State of Alaska is one of the last states in the union to not recognize the true authority of Tribes.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives that the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities cooperate with threatened Alaska Native communities and the Denali Commission to facilitate by cooperative agreements, contracts, or grants the commitment of up to fifteen percent (15%) of the State of Alaska's federal surface transportation funds authorized under 23 USC § 133 in support of road infrastructure development for endangered Alaska Native communities who are actively engaged in relocation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the delegates of the AFN convention urges the Alaska Federation of Natives to work with the State of Alaska in furthering its recognition of the sovereign rights of the 229 federally recognized tribes through a government to government tribal consultation by the creation of tribal agreements that are quarterly reviewed.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY:	NEWTOK VILLAGE
COMMITTEE ACTION:	COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION:	AMENDED AND PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-32

- TITLE:** STRENGTHENING THE ALASKA ARMORY NATIONAL GUARD AND THE ALASKA STATE DEFENSE FORCE IN RURAL ALASKA
- WHEREAS:** The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and
- WHEREAS:** the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and
- WHEREAS:** the Alaska Armory National Guard (AKNG) has a long history in Alaska, originally formed as the Alaska Territorial Guard in 1942 in direct response to the invasion of the Aleutian Islands during World War II; and
- WHEREAS:** the Alaska Territorial Guard was the first line of defense for the entire Alaskan coastline and the air route to Russia and by the end of World War II, some 6,400 troops served across rural Alaska; and
- WHEREAS:** during the Cold War years, the AKNG consisted of three rural battalions located on the North Slope, in Southwest and in Southeast Alaska, plus a headquarters battalion in Anchorage; and
- WHEREAS:** the AKNG was once a revered military organization in rural Alaska and Alaska Native young men and women could not wait to turn eighteen (18) of age so they could enlist; and
- WHEREAS:** the AKNG continues to provide assistance that is needed and necessary in communities in rural Alaska and other areas of the State of Alaska in emergency situations such as flooding, earthquakes, and natural disasters; and
- WHEREAS:** the AKNG frequently provides emergency medical and other assistance in response to natural disasters and other emergency situations; and
- WHEREAS:** enlistment in the AKNG in rural Alaska has declined substantially, down from 2,250 troops in the early 1990s to fewer than 1,800 troops by 2016 and active armories are down from 76 to only 17 during that same period, leaving the AKNG non-existent in many villages in rural Alaska; and
- WHEREAS:** Governor Bill Walker and Lieutenant Governor Byron Mallott assembled a transition team committee charged with revitalization of the AKNG in rural Alaska; and
- WHEREAS:** the committee concluded in their report that the AKNG brought leadership, discipline, and a career path for rural Alaskans, and that the practical training of the Guard provided skills that directly benefited the sustainability and prosperity of rural Alaska communities; and

WHEREAS: the committee also concluded the AKNG was of vital importance to the State of Alaska and strongly supported and recommended its strengthening; and.

WHEREAS: the Alaska State Defense Force (ASDF) is a volunteer organization whose primary role is to augment and support the AKNG; and

WHEREAS: the ASDF differs from the AKNG in that it is entirely under the control of the State of Alaska and not subject to the requirements, restrictions, and funding limitations of the federally controlled National Guard system; and

WHEREAS: ASDF soldiers are trained and equipped for various missions, including communications, emergency management, medical assistance, logistical support, chaplaincy, and shelter management; and

WHEREAS: the State of Alaska is one of the last states in the union to not recognize the true authority of Tribes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives that AFN acknowledges the history of distinguished service of the Eskimo Scouts in the Alaska Territorial Guard and the contributions the Eskimo Scouts made to national security during wartime and to Alaska and, in honor of such, AFN supports all efforts to increase opportunities for Alaska Natives living in rural Alaska to serve in the Alaska Armory National Guard and the Alaska State Defense Force, thereby contributing to the security of our Nation, the well being of the State of Alaska, and the social and economic health of rural Alaska; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that AFN applauds Governor Bill Walker and Lieutenant Governor Byron Mallott for their efforts to both strengthen the AKNG in rural Alaska and reshape and expand the ASDF; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that AFN urges Governor Walker and Lt. Governor Mallott to maintain or increase the momentum in AKNG and ASDF efforts to expand opportunities for service by rural Alaskans and Alaska Native people; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that AFN supports the Alaska Department of Military and Veterans Affairs initiatives to increase military participation among Alaska Native young adults and participation in the ASDF by Alaska Native adults, especially veterans; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that AFN urges Governor Walker and Lt. Governor Mallott, the State of Alaska, the Alaska State Legislature, and Alaska's Congressional Delegation to work with all appropriate stakeholders to maximize the presence of the National Guard and the ASDF in rural Alaska, to address important present needs and in anticipation of new state and national missions associated with increasing human use of the Arctic and the Circumpolar North; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the delegates of the AFN convention urges the Alaska Federation of Natives to work with the State of Alaska in furthering its recognition of the sovereign rights of the 229 federally recognized tribes through a government to government tribal consultation by the creation of tribal agreements that are quarterly reviewed.



Julie E. Kitka

Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY:
COMMITTEE ACTION:
CONVENTION ACTION:

COOK INLET REGION, INC.
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO
CONVENTION FOR CONSIDERATION
AMENDED AND PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-33

TITLE: IN SUPPORT OF ALASKA PUBLIC SERVICE MEDIA

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and

WHEREAS: the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and

WHEREAS: Alaska public media including radio and television serve more than 95% of the state's population, including Native villages in some of the most isolated and remote locations within the U.S., with broadband access unavailable or unaffordable to many; and

WHEREAS: the citizens of Alaska rely on locally owned and operated public media for information about their public safety, education, economy, health, and Alaska Native cultural and language programming; and

WHEREAS: Alaska public media stations rely on critical funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) and the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission (APBC); and

WHEREAS: recent challenges to cut, reduce, or eliminate funding to CPB and APBC will severely impact Alaska's public media stations including cutting off the primary source of media communications for many Alaska Native communities; and

WHEREAS: Alaska public media employs 218 people in public radio broadcasting, as well as 72 people in public broadcast television. The stations are also kept running thanks to 1,300 volunteers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives to convey to Congress, the Alaska State legislature, and the Governor of Alaska, the critical nature of sustaining annual funding for Alaska's public radio and television stations; and furthermore that AFN supports annual Congressional appropriations to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and State of Alaska funds to the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY: KOAHNIC BROADCAST CORPORATION
COMMITTEE ACTION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION
FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION: PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-34

- TITLE:** URGING THE STATE OF ALASKA TO PROVIDE CAPITAL FUNDING TO REPLACE THE SATELLITE SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE ESSENTIAL IN THE DELIVERY OF THE ALASKA RURAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE AND PUBLIC BROADCASTING SERVICES
- WHEREAS:** The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and
- WHEREAS:** the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and
- WHEREAS:** the State of Alaska's (SOA) public communications satellite infrastructure is used to deliver important communications content to urban cities and rural communities across the entire state; and
- WHEREAS:** satellite infrastructure provides unmatched communication delivery; and is designated and operated as a State Satellite Relay Network by the SOA Emergency Alert System (EAS) Plan, distributing important communication to the farthest corners of the state through state and federal alerts, including warnings to residents about tsunamis, major storms, wild land fires, and child abductions; and
- WHEREAS:** state satellite infrastructure provides a critical link in public communications, facilitating delivery of news, public affairs, legislative and other state government content, public service information, essential life-health-safety and emergency information, entertainment, and educational program services; and
- WHEREAS:** satellite infrastructure represents an efficient partnership between state agencies, public broadcasters, educational entities, and local communities in remote and rural areas. Among the services carried on this unique piece of infrastructure are the Alaska Rural Communications System (ARCS), the SOA's low power rural television service emergency warnings distributed in real time to all regions of the state Alaska Public Media's television service, Alaska Public Television (APT), state news from Alaska Public Media (formerly APRN), 360 North/Gavel Alaska broadcast of legislative sessions and Alaska content University of Alaska Television featuring First Nations Experience (FNX) programming Public radio signal delivery to rural community translators in remote villages, and audio feeds for public radio stations too far west for standard satellite service; and
- WHEREAS:** ARCS reaches more than 185 remote, rural communities across Alaska with daily news and information, educational programming, and coverage of important statewide events through a mix of commercial and noncommercial television programming, as the only source of such service for many rural Alaskans; and

WHEREAS: the statewide public television service originating at KAKM Anchorage, and in partnership with KTOO Juneau and KYUK Bethel, is distributed by satellite and broadcast throughout the state, providing rural viewers with Alaskan and national non-commercial programming; and

WHEREAS: UATV from the University of Alaska Fairbanks features cultural, educational and informational programming from the FNX channel, the only nationally distributed TV channel exclusively devoted to Native American and World Indigenous content; and

WHEREAS: public radio services are delivered and exchanged among 26 public radio stations and translators reaching a total of 95% of Alaska’s population; and

WHEREAS: all of the original uplink infrastructure equipment was replaced by Alaska Public Broadcasting, Inc. in 2006, and is functioning at its operational capacity with public media providers waiting for additional capacity to provide increased services; and

WHEREAS: this core infrastructure has performed at a high level, but is now in its 11th year of service, is no longer supported by the manufacturer and is now experiencing ongoing component level failures making continued service dependent upon workaround and backup systems; and

WHEREAS: services will be significantly jeopardized when further failures occur or when backup components fail; and

WHEREAS: the uplink system now requires replacement before catastrophic failure renders it inoperable; and

WHEREAS: previous requests for capital funds to replace this system prior to failure have not resulted in positive results.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Alaska Federation of Natives Convention that AFN urges Governor Walker and the Alaska State Legislature to provide capital funding to replace the satellite system infrastructure that delivers the Alaska Rural Communications Service and Public Broadcasting Services to Alaskans statewide.



Julie E. Kitka

Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY: COUNCIL FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES
 COMMITTEE ACTION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION FOR CONSIDERATION
 CONVENTION ACTION: PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-35

- TITLE:** URGING THE STATE OF ALASKA TO ENSURE THAT THE ALASKA RURAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE, SATELLITE SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC BROADCASTING BE FULLY FUNDED TO CONTINUE OPERATIONAL SERVICE
- WHEREAS:** The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and
- WHEREAS:** the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and
- WHEREAS:** the Alaska Rural Communications Service (ARCS) provides free, over-the-air television service to approximately 185 remote, isolated, rural Alaska communities and remains a primary, affordable information source for many users; and
- WHEREAS:** ARCS, a television service formerly known as RATNet, is owned and operated by the State of Alaska (State), and the State relies on it as part of its emergency broadcast system; and
- WHEREAS:** the State has operated ARCS in partnerships with rural village community organizations and urban television broadcasters for over three decades; and
- WHEREAS:** ARCS continues to provide a valuable service to bush Alaska, especially the most vulnerable and at-risk residents in remote areas, as a free-to-watch over the air television service; and
- WHEREAS:** ARCS delivers vital weather and emergency information, as well as news, public affairs, entertainment and educational programming in some of Alaska's most remote and economically depressed regions; and
- WHEREAS:** through a fiscal year 2014 capital appropriation, the State is in the process of converting all ARCS's transmitters in the villages from analog to digital, which AFN supported via Resolution 2012-34; and
- WHEREAS:** the satellite infrastructure delivers ARCS TV, multiple public TV and radio services, Gavel Alaska, and emergency alerts to residents statewide; and
- WHEREAS:** the digital conversion project delivers improved and increased programming to ARCS viewers with no additional operating costs, implements new electronics to replace aging equipment, and maximizes use of the ARCS satellite infrastructure; and
- WHEREAS:** the State's initial investment in RATNet produced three decades of service to rural Alaska that continues as ARCS today; and the new digital ACRS technology increases availability of public broadcasting content and services to many residents for the first time; and

WHEREAS: public broadcasting in Alaska provides over the air non-commercial public service programming to unserved and underserved audiences throughout Alaska; and

WHEREAS: public broadcasting provides an unparalleled level of local public service programming including local news; weather and marine conditions; community information; emergency, health and safety information; music and public affairs programming; and live event coverage; and

WHEREAS: public broadcasting serves rural communities where commercial service does not exist. Service in the bush is provided by originating stations based in bush and rural communities and by urban stations with equipment in remote areas; and

WHEREAS: public broadcasting's public safety mission is reflected in participation in the statewide Emergency Alert System (EAS), which for many is a primary source of local, statewide and national emergency declarations; and

WHEREAS: public broadcasting's education mission is reflected in the high quality of its children's programming, educational outreach in the community, and lifelong learning opportunities for all ages; and

WHEREAS: public broadcasting's local service mission is characterized by local ownership, local control of programming, deep community engagement; strong partnerships with many community organizations; and

WHEREAS: the collaborative relationship between the State, the public communications services it supports, and the residents in rural and urban Alaska communities who depend on those services every day, represents a unique and valuable partnership worthy of strong support.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Alaska Federation of Natives Annual Convention that AFN urges Governor Walker and the Alaska State Legislature to ensure that the Alaska Rural Communications Service, Satellite Services and Public Broadcasting are fully funded so that residents in bush and rural Alaska continue to receive these fundamental radio and television services.



Julie E. Kitka

Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY:	COUNCIL ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES
COMMITTEE ACTION:	COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION:	PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-36

- TITLE:** URGING THE FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS TO MAINTAIN OR IMPROVE THE ACCURACY OF CENSUS BUREAU DATA COLLECTIONS IN ALASKA
- WHEREAS:** The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and
- WHEREAS:** the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and
- WHEREAS:** United States Census Bureau data collections are fundamental to our country's democratic process because they are used to determine apportionment in the U.S. House of Representatives, redraw state legislative boundaries, and redraw the political subdivisions of local governments; and
- WHEREAS:** the federal government allocates nearly \$600 billion annually based upon Census Bureau data, including more than \$2.8 billion within Alaska each year, providing critical funding to build and repair roads and bridges, operate our healthcare and education systems, provide nutrition assistance to low-income children and families, develop and operate affordable housing, support our foster care system, and much more; and
- WHEREAS:** Census Bureau data is used to enforce state and federal laws, including civil rights laws, voting rights requirements, and the obligation of financial institutions to serve minority populations; and
- WHEREAS:** Tribes, governments, private businesses, nonprofit organizations, and universities use Census Bureau data in their planning efforts and to develop critical public policy recommendations; and
- WHEREAS:** the accuracy of Census Bureau data collections, including the 2020 Decennial Census and the annual American Community Survey, is jeopardized by the extremely low federal funding levels that have been proposed for the U.S. Census Bureau for fiscal year (FY) 2018; and
- WHEREAS:** Alaskan communities are among the most difficult in the nation to accurately count, particularly those with a high proportion of Alaska Native persons; and
- WHEREAS:** underfunding Census Bureau data collections significantly increases the risk that Alaskans will be uncounted, particularly Alaska Natives; and
- WHEREAS:** the consequences of undercounting Alaska Native persons include: inequitable redistricting, decreased federal funding that exacerbates Alaska's fiscal situation, reductions in essential services like infrastructure repairs, decreased funding for education and programs that make up Alaska's social safety net, improper enforcement

of laws that protect vulnerable populations, and less accurate data available to tribes and tribal organizations to effectively plan for the future; and

WHEREAS: the U.S. Census Bureau requires an appropriation of no less than \$1.8 billion for FY 2018 in order to properly administer its various programs and to conduct the advance testing necessary to implement new, more efficient information technology systems and data collection methods that will reduce the risk of an undercount in Alaska communities; and

WHEREAS: the likelihood of insufficient federal appropriations for Census Bureau data collections will require personnel from multiple state agencies, particularly the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, to engage directly with the U.S. Census Bureau on a frequent and ongoing basis to evaluate and recommend strategies to enhance the accuracy of Census Bureau data collections in Alaska;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of Alaska Federation of Natives to:

1. Recognize the critical importance of U.S Census Bureau data collections to all Alaskans;
2. Urge the United States Congress to appropriate sufficient federal resources to maintain or improve the accuracy of Census Bureau data collections in Alaska, including an appropriation of at least \$1.8 billion for FY 2018; and
3. Urge Governor Walker and the Alaska Legislature to prioritize the allocation of State resources to the departments and agencies responsible for coordinating with the U.S. Census Bureau in order to enhance the accuracy of Census Bureau data for Alaska.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY:	COUNCIL ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES
COMMITTEE ACTION:	COMMITTEE APPROVED TO SEND TO CONVENTION FLOOR FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION:	PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
Resolution 17-37

- TITLE:** A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ALASKA LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION
- WHEREAS:** The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and
- WHEREAS:** the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the culture, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native Community; and
- WHEREAS:** in its fiftieth year, Alaska Legal Services Corporation (ALSC) continues to ensure fairness for all in the justice system by providing access to free legal help for Alaskans who cannot afford it; and
- WHEREAS:** civil legal aid protects the livelihood, health and safety of Alaskans; and
- WHEREAS:** ALSC's lawyers in twelve offices around the state serve a population of over 108,650 Alaskans living below 125% of the poverty threshold, including more than 31,600 Alaska Natives; and
- WHEREAS:** ALSC has been a strong ally of the Alaska Native community through landmark court cases such as *Hootch v. Alaska*, *Alvarado v. State*, *Carle v. Carle*, *Aguchak v. Montgomery Ward*, *Chilkat Indian Village v. Johnson*, *Allakaket v. Hickel*, *John v. Baker*; *State v. Native Village of Curyung*, *State v. Native Village of Tanana*, *Simmonds v. Parks*, *Native Village of Tununak v. State of Alaska*, *State of Alaska v. Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska*, *Akiachak Native Community v. U.S. Department of the Interior*; and
- WHEREAS:** several regional nonprofits including Bristol Bay Native Association, Association of Village Council Presidents, the Tanana Chiefs Conference, Kawerak, and Maniilaq Association currently partner with ALSC to support local ALSC offices and staff in the communities of Bethel, Dillingham, Fairbanks, Nome, and Kotzebue; and
- WHEREAS:** several regional for-profits have provided significant financial and in-kind support to ALSC's regional offices including Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, CIRI, Inc., Bering Straits Native Corporation, Bristol Bay Native Corporation, Doyon, Ltd., and the Sitnasuak Native Corporation; and
- WHEREAS:** several tribal governments including the Central Council of Tlingit-Haida Indian tribes of Alaska, the Kenaitze Indian Tribe, the Inupiaq Community of the Arctic Slope, the Nome Eskimo Community, Native Village of Kotzebue, and Orutsarmiut Native Council have also provided financial support for and partnered with ALSC; and
- WHEREAS:** since 1984 when ALSC received an appropriation from the state of Alaska of \$1.2 million to serve a population of 41,000 people eligible for ALSC's services, the number of Alaskans eligible for ALSC's help has more than doubled, yet the state's current contribution to ALSC is only a fraction of what it was 32 years ago; and

WHEREAS: the State of Alaska did make an appropriation to ALSC for fiscal year (FY) 2018, approved by Governor Walker, in the amount of \$450,000, which is far less than what is needed to assure that all Alaskans have access to equal justice and it is unclear whether this will be sustained in future fiscal years; and

WHEREAS: the vast majority of ALSC's cases involve the basic human necessities of family safety, shelter, food, access to medical care and income maintenance; and,

WHEREAS: ALSC must turn away over half of the qualified individuals each year with critical legal needs due to its limited resources; and

WHEREAS: every additional \$100,000 of funding enables ALSC to directly benefit 182 more people; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives that AFN urges the Governor of Alaska to retain the appropriation for ALSC in his proposed FY 2019 budget, and urges the Alaska Legislature to appropriate that funding, and to pass HB 106 to create a stable funding stream for ALSC, and urges Congress to award sufficient funding to the federal Legal Services Corporation to support Alaska Legal Services Corporation's mission of providing free legal services on vital issues to low income Alaskans.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY: BRISTOL BAY NATIVE ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE ACTION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION BE SENT TO CONVENTION FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION: AMENDED AND PASSED



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 17-38

TITLE: AN ENDORSEMENT FOR A CANDIDATE FOR THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OR STATEWIDE PUBLIC OFFICE REQUIRES A VOTE FROM THE DELEGATES ON THE CONVENTION FLOOR

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 177 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and

WHEREAS: the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and

WHEREAS: the Alaska Federation of Natives has had an inconsistent policy to endorse Presidential candidates in the past where some years the body has endorsed and other years it has not endorsed; and

WHEREAS: if AFN does not endorse a Presidential candidate or statewide candidate for public office, we can still develop strong relationships with the Administration or individual that is ultimately elected; and

WHEREAS: U.S. Presidential and statewide public office endorsements can harm Alaska Native villages, communities, and businesses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives call to prevent AFN from endorsing political candidates to the position of the President of the United States or other statewide public office without notification of at least fourteen days notice to AFN and a three-quarters vote by the delegates of the convention; except that this resolution shall not apply to special elections.



Julie Kitka
President

SUBMITTED BY: KONIAG-KANA REGIONAL ROUNDTABLE
COMMITTEE ACTION: REFER TO AFN BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR REVIEW- BOARD APPROVED
TO SEND TO CONVENTION FOR CONSIDERATION
CONVENTION ACTION: AMENDED AND PASSED