TITLE: RESOLUTION ENDORSING SECRETARY HILLARY CLINTON FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 185 federally recognized tribes, 153 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 12 regional non-profit 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: Presidential Candidate Hillary Clinton has a long record of supporting Alaska Native and American Indian causes; and

WHEREAS: As First Lady, Hillary Clinton worked to pass universal health care reform and sought to strengthen the health care delivery system for Native Americans; and

WHEREAS: As First Lady, Hillary Clinton advocated for passage of the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act of 2000 that included important provisions to combat domestic violence against Native women; and

WHEREAS: As First Lady, Hillary Clinton worked to develop and pass the Children’s Health Insurance Program that has helped to ensure access to quality health care for low-income Native children; and

WHEREAS: As Senator for New York, Hillary Clinton sponsored and fought for legislation to give tribes greater representation in advisory groups and direct access to federal grants in a variety of ways, from health care and law enforcement, to environmental justice and infant care; and

WHEREAS: As Senator, Hillary Clinton repeatedly co-sponsored legislation to improve health care for Native Americans, including breast and cancer treatment and obesity; and

WHEREAS: As Senator, Hillary Clinton cosponsored the Indian Health Care Improvement Act Amendment of 2007; and

WHEREAS: As Senator, Hillary Clinton worked to support Tribal colleges and other Native institutions and supported measures to protect Native American women from domestic violence and sexual abuse; and
WHEREAS: As Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton supported the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which continues to make critical contributions to Alaska Native and American Indian policies and strengthen the vital government-to-government relationship between the U.S. and tribes; and

WHEREAS: Presidential Candidate Hillary Clinton has published a comprehensive Fact Sheet outlining her tribal affairs priorities; and

WHEREAS: Hillary Clinton has committed to ensure that the federal government works collaboratively with Alaska Native communities to sustainably and cooperatively manage fish and wildlife resources and protect the air, water and other natural resources; and

WHEREAS: Hillary Clinton has committed to ensuring regular and meaningful tribal consultation in the development of federal policies; and

WHEREAS: Hillary Clinton has committed to host an annual White House Tribal Nations Conference; and

WHEREAS: Hillary Clinton has committed to appoint Native people to key positions in her Administration; and

WHEREAS: Hillary Clinton has committed to supporting the provisions of the Violence Against Women Act of 2013 and has vowed to work with tribal leaders to ensure public safety on tribal lands and to adequately address the unique law enforcement needs of Alaska Native communities; and

WHEREAS: Hillary Clinton has recognized that Drug and alcohol addiction rates for Native Americans are significantly higher than the country’s average and believes we must tackle this epidemic; and

WHEREAS: Hillary Clinton has proposed a $10 billion nationwide Initiative to Combat America’s Deadly Epidemic of Drug and Alcohol Addiction that will empower Tribal Governments to help their own citizens by implementing preventive programming, investing in treatment and recovery, and ensuring that all first responders have access to naloxone; and

WHEREAS: Hillary Clinton has committed to continue to support the Generation Indigenous initiative that has made important strides in promoting new investments and increased engagement with Alaska Native and American Indian youth; and

WHEREAS: Hillary Clinton has committed to nominating qualified federal judges who understand tribal sovereignty and the nation-to-nation relationship; and

WHEREAS: Hillary Clinton has committed to invest $20 billion to support new youth jobs and provide pathways of opportunity for young Americans, including Native youth; and

WHEREAS: Hillary Clinton has committed to support the New College Compact that will ensure that college costs are affordable for all students, including those attending Tribally operated colleges and universities; and
WHEREAS:  Hillary Clinton has committed to ensure that urban Indian health centers have adequate access to health services; and

WHEREAS:  Hillary Clinton is committed to listening to Native people and their concerns, hopes and aspirations, and will welcome Native people into the highest levels of decision-making immediately upon being elected; and

WHEREAS:  Hillary Clinton will solicit nominations for appointees from Indian Country and direct the Presidential Personnel office at the WH to prioritize her appointments to look like the full diversity of America, including Native Americans; and

WHEREAS:  Hillary Clinton will work with Indian country to give new tools and opportunity for employment and creating sustainable economies; and

WHEREAS:  Hillary Clinton recognizes that Alaska is ground zero for climate change and energy. She will listen to concerns from scientists and local residents and propose remediation and funding for voluntary village relocation and propose an infrastructure fund to address the challenges facing the Arctic; and

WHEREAS:  Hillary Clinton will support energy independence for our country, supporting responsible energy development on public lands and incentives to support renewable energy beyond demonstration projects.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates to the 2016 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives endorse Hillary Clinton for President of the United States of America.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be the policy of AFN until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

Julie Kitka
President