



2020 ANNUAL CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS POLICY

Introduction

AFN's mission is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community. Resolutions will be used to help guide AFN toward the following goals:

- Advocate for Alaska Native people, their governments and organizations, with respect to federal, state and local laws;
- Foster and encourage preservation of Alaska Native cultures;
- Promote understanding of the economic needs of Alaska Natives and encourage development consistent with those needs;
- Protect, retain and enhance all lands owned by Alaska Natives and their organizations; and
- Promote and advocate for programs and systems, which instill pride and confidence in all Alaska Natives.

Committee Organization

- A. The AFN Board of Directors adopted these guidelines to assist the AFN Resolutions Committee in meeting their responsibility for accepting, evaluating and making recommendations in the consideration of resolutions.
- B. AFN Resolutions Committee is a standing committee comprised of members appointed by the Co-Chairs of the AFN Board of Directors.
- C. The Chairman of the Committee and/or AFN's staff assigned to the Committee shall give members appointed to the Resolutions Committee an orientation to the resolutions process. Included in the orientation packet shall be:
 - 1) A copy of the AFN Bylaws;
 - 2) A copy of Resolutions Policy & Procedures;
 - 3) A copy of the Annual Notification for submission of resolutions; and
 - 4) A copy of the resolutions passed by the previous Annual Convention.
- D. The Elders/Youth Conference, hosted by the First Alaskans Institute, shall form a resolutions committee. The Elders/Youth Conference shall establish guidelines for their resolutions committee along the same lines as the AFN Resolutions Committee. The Elder/Youth Resolutions Committee may request a member of the AFN Resolutions Committee to serve on the Elders/Youth Resolutions Committee.

Criteria for Submitting Resolutions

- A. The Resolutions Committee will entertain resolutions submitted by any recognized Alaska Native delegate to the Annual Convention, Alaska Native Group, or AFN member organizations.
- B. The Resolutions Committee will consider only resolutions that address issues of statewide or broader significance.
- C. Resolutions submitted must address only one issue and must be accompanied by a one paragraph problem statement that clearly explains the problem/issue which you are wanting AFN to solve. There is a new section on the resolution form for the problem statement.
- D. Resolutions requesting funding may be referred to the AFN Board of Directors or an appropriate regional or local organization.
- E. The Resolutions Committee may refer to the AFN Board of Directors or an appropriate member organization for resolutions that request legal action.
- F. The Resolutions Committee will refer to the AFN Board of Directors all resolutions that are determined to be a divisive issue between member organizations.
- G. The Resolutions Committee shall refer all resolutions of endorsements, commendations, or recognition to the AFN Board of Directors.

Resolution Procedures and Follow-Up

(Please see revised 2020 prodecures on next page)

- A. When a resolution does not follow the established format, it will be referred back to the sponsor or be rewritten/revised.
- B. Duplicate resolutions may be consolidated. All sponsors of duplicates will be noted on final resolutions.
- C. The Resolutions Committee will only consider resolutions that are received by the deadline of September 14, 2020.
- D. Resolutions should be one issue per resolution.
- E. Resolutions making misstatements on issues will be returned to their sponsor(s).
- F. The AFN President or designee, which may include the Chair of the Resolutions Committee, shall make a summary report of actions that occurred on the resolutions adopted at the prior Annual Convention.
- G. An authorized member delegate may present a resolution(s) to the Annual Convention by “Suspension of Rules” procedure set out in Roberts Rules of Order provided that copies were handed out the day before the resolutions are to be acted on and comply with this policy.
- H. The Resolutions Committee shall categorize all resolutions received into the following categories: AFN Board Resolutions; Special Recognition; Subsistence; Health, Safety & Welfare; Cultural; Land & Natural Resources; Education; Economics; ANCSA/Tribal; Elder/ Youth; and Other.
- I. Resolutions presented to the Annual Convention and passed by the delegation shall be processed by the Resolutions Committee into a final set of resolutions for presentation to the AFN Board of Directors.

2020 RESOLUTIONS PROCEDURES FOR A VIRTUAL CONVENTION

The Alaska Federation of Natives Board of Directors decided to hold the 2020 Annual Convention virtually, citing ongoing COVID-19 health and safety concerns. In light of the various challenges that a virtual Convention presents, the Board also decided to forgo a live debate of the resolutions by delegates this year. Resolutions by AFN's membership may still be submitted for consideration, however, under the process outlined below.

Step 1: Members submit a resolution for consideration by the 2020 Resolutions deadline (September 14, 2020).

Step 2: Resolution Committee meets for an initial review (DRAFT 2020 Resolutions will be shared with AFN's membership prior to the 2020 Virtual Annual AFN Convention).

Step 3: Resolution Committee develops a 2020 Virtual Annual Convention report on each resolution, committee recommendations, and next steps. Report to be presented at the 2020 Virtual Annual AFN Convention.

Step 4: AFN members will provide feedback on the 2020 DRAFT resolutions; further Resolutions Committee work will ensue; recommendations and feedback can be shared with AFN via email at resolutions@nativefederation.org, fax (907-276-7989), or through www.nativefederation.org. AFN will share updated copies after each AFN Resolutions Committee meeting.

Step 5: AFN Board approves the final 2020 Annual Virtual Convention resolutions on December 8, 2020.

Additionally, due to the difficulties of ensuring equal participation among AFN membership with a virtual convention, the Board made the following changes to the 2020 Resolutions process.

- No Convention endorsements of candidates or ballot initiatives will be considered for 2020.
- Consideration of resolutions under the suspension of rules will not be considered in 2020.
- Organizations that wish to submit resolutions after the September 14 deadline will be required to submit a written request to the Resolutions Committee.
- Elders and Youth Resolutions will be reviewed and approved by the Board at the December 8, 2020 meeting.