



2013 Annual AFN Convention Resolutions

TABLE OF CONTENTS		
NUMBER	TITLE	CONVENTION ACTION
SPECIAL RECOGNITION		
13-1	HONORING KATIE JOHN & NAMING MAY 31 AS "KATIE JOHN DAY"	
13-2	IN HONOR OF RAY MALA AND OTHER ALASKA NATIVES IN THE PERFORMING ARTS	
SUBSISTENCE		
13-3	A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NORTH PACIFIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL TO REDUCE THE CHINOOK BY-CATCH TO NO MORE THAN 20,000, SUPPORTING FUNDING FOR RESEARCH ON CLIMATE CHANGE, AND PRIORITIZING ACCESS FOR SPECIFIED SUBSISTENCE USERS TO ENHANCE ESCAPEMENT	
13-4	PROTECTION OF ALASKA NATIVE SUBSISTENCE PRIORITY IN FEDERAL REVIEW OF RURAL QUALIFICATION CRITERIA AND CURRENT FAILURE OF COMPLIANCE WITH CONGRESSIONAL INTENT FOR TITLE VIII OF ANILCA	
13-5	REQUESTING THE STATE OF ALASKA TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT THE OPERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ALASKA MIGRATORY BIRD CO-MANAGEMENT COUNCIL	
13-6	A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE MAGNUSON-STEVENS FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT	
13-7	FEDERAL PRIORITY OF INDIGENOUS HUNTING, FISHING, TRAPPING AND GATHERING	

	HEALTH, SAFETY, WELFARE	
13-8	ALASKA SAFE FAMILIES AND VILLAGES ACT OF 2013 AND REPEAL OF SECTION 910 OF THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT	
13-9	IN SUPPORT OF FULL FUNDING FOR NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF DETERMINATION (NAHASDA) 2013 & 2014 FISCAL YEAR FUNDING	
13-10	IN SUPPORT OF S. 1575, A BILL TO CORRECT THE INCONSISTENCIES IN THE DEFINITIONS OF "INDIAN" FOR HEALTH CARE PURPOSES	
13-11	TO AMEND THE ALASKA NATIVE EDUCATION EQUITY ACT AND UTILIZE ALL LEGISLATIVE TOOLS TO ENSURE THAT FUNDING IS ADMINISTERED BY ALASKA NATIVE ORGANIZATIONS	
13-12	SUPPORT LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS TO STRENGTHEN PUBLIC LAW 102-477 PROGRAMMING BY UPHOLDING TRIBAL MANAGEMENT OVER FEDERAL AGENCY FUNDS IN AN INTEGRATED EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAM	
12-13	RESTORING NATIVE AMERICAN INDIGENOUS RIGHTS TO ADDRESS THE CRISIS OF SUICIDE AND OTHER SOCIAL CHALLENGES FACING OUR COMMUNITIES	
13-14	PROTECT ALASKA NATIVE WOMEN	
13-15	A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SOUTHCENTRAL FOUNDATION'S NUKA SYSTEM OF CARE	
13-16	SUPPORT FOR DR. WILLIAM DEMMERT PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE INDIAN EDUCATION ACT TITLE VII ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT	
13-17	RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF REAUTHORIZATION OF THE RURAL ALASKA VILLAGE GRANT SANITATION FACILITIES PROGRAM	

13-18	A RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNOR AND THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENSURE THAT THE FULL IMPACT OF POTENTIAL MEDICAID EXPANSION IS CONSIDERED AND TO TAKE COMPLETE ADVANTAGE OF FEDERAL RESOURCES TO EXPANDING MEDICAID COVERAGE TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF ALASKANS AND TO IMPROVE THE ALASKAN ECONOMY	
13-19	URGING PRESIDENT OBAMA AND CONGRESS TO PROTECT SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FUNDING	
13-20	SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG TREATMENT CENTERS IN REGIONAL HUBS	
13-21	SUPPORTING PLACEMENT AND TRANSITIONAL HOMES IN THE REGIONAL HUB COMMUNITIES	
13-22	SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF HOMELESS SHELTERS IN THE REGIONAL HUB COMMUNITIES	
13-23	ACTION SUPPORTING MEANINGFUL CHEMICALS POLICY REFORM AND NOT SUPPORTING THE CHEMICAL SAFETY IMPROVEMENT ACT (S.1009) AS CURRENTLY DRAFTED	
13-24	A RESOLUTION URGING THE STATE OF ALASKA TO ENHANCE ITS' PREVENTION AND ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS AGAINST DANGEROUS DRUGS IN RURAL ALASKA	
	LAND & NATURAL RESOURCES	
13-25	SUPPORT THE CONTINUING WORK OF THE STATE OF ALASKA SUB-CABINET ON CLIMATE CHANGE	
13-26	A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LEGISLATION TO CHANGE STATE LAW REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES TO RECONVEY LAND FOR VALID PENDING NATIVE ALLOTMENTS	
13-27	A RESOLUTION OPPOSING SENATE BILL 27 OF THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE: DREDGE FILL PERMITTING	
	ECONOMIC	
13-28	FULL FUNDING OF INDIRECT COSTS (CONTRACT SUPPORT COSTS)	

13-29	PROTECT TRIBAL PROGRAMS FROM IMPACTS OF SEQUESTRATION	
13-30	ENERGY AFFORDABILITY THROUGH WEATHERIZATION AND RENEWABLE SYSTEMS	
13-31	ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE FIXED AND MOBILE BROADBAND	
	OTHER	
13-32	RECOGNITION OF THE ONE FOOT HIGH KICK INTO THE WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES	
13-33	A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PROTECTION OF SLED DOG MUSHING IN ALASKA AND TO AFFIRM ALASKA AS A "RIGHT TO MUSH" STATE AND TO PROTECT THE CUSTOMARY AND TRADITIONAL ACTIVITY OF SLED DOG MUSHING FOR THE SPIRITUAL, MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH OF ALASKANS	
13-34	REQUESTING THE STATE OF ALASKA TO INCREASE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR RURAL RESIDENTS TO OBTAIN AN INITIAL STATE OF ALASKA IDENTIFICATION CARD	
13-35	SUPPORTING THE FAIRBANKS FOUR	
13-36	INCREASE ALASKA NATIVE VOTER TURN OUT	
13-37	A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR ALASKA LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION	
13-38	AMERICAN INDIAN VETERANS MEMORIAL INITIATIVE	
	ANSCA/TRIBAL	
13-39	AUTHORIZING STATEWIDE HEARINGS ON SUBSISTENCE	
13-40	PROMOTING TRIBALLY-OPERATED SCHOOLS AND CULTURALLY-APPROPRIATE EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALASKA NATIVE YOUTH BY RE-ESTABLISHING BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION (BIE) FUNDING IN ALASKA	
	SUSPENSION OF RULES	

Alaska Federation of Natives
2013 Annual Convention
Resolution 13-1

- Title: HONORING KATIE JOHN & NAMING MAY 31 AS “KATIE JOHN DAY”
- WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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: Katie John, a respected and cherished Ahtna Elder, passed away on Friday, May 31, 2013; and
- WHEREAS: Katie John was the champion, the leader, and the lead plaintiff in a long and tenuous legal battle addressing Native subsistence fishing rights; and
- WHEREAS: the lawsuit endured by Katie John was filed after the State of Alaska refused her and Doris Charles, access to a long-abandoned fish camp in Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve; and
- WHEREAS: Katie John fought not only to maintain her family’s fish camp, but to pass her traditional way of life and practices to her children and grandchildren; and
- WHEREAS: Katie John endured a decade long battle through the state and federal court systems, fighting for the subsistence hunting and fishing rights of all Alaska Natives; and
- WHEREAS: her fight culminated in a 2001 Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruling stating that the subsistence fisheries protections provided under Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) did in fact extend to all navigable waters in which the federal government owned reserved water rights, effectively allowing subsistence fishing to continue unrestricted in those areas; and
- WHEREAS: without her persistence and unwillingness to concede, Alaska Natives as a whole would not be able to practice and enjoy traditional lifestyles, passing the ways of Native people on to the next generations, and ensuring traditional culture and heritage practices are never forgotten; and
- WHEREAS: in recognition of her fighter spirit and courageous battle, the University of Alaska Fairbanks decreed Katie John with an honorary doctorate of law degree during

the 2011 spring commencement ceremony, to be forever revered as Dr. Katie John; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates to the 2013 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives Inc honors Katie John for her lifetime of accomplishments and her contributions to Alaska Native peoples

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that AFN requests the State of Alaska to declare May 31 Katie John Day as this is the day the State of Alaska allows Alaska Native people to put their fishwheels in the water.

SUBMITTED BY: ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES BOARD OF DIRECTORS
COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS
CONVENTION ACTION:

Alaska Federation of Natives
2013 Annual Convention
Resolution 13-2

TITLE: IN HONOR OF RAY MALA AND OTHER ALASKA NATIVES IN THE PERFORMING ARTS

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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: Ray Mala was born above the Arctic Circle in a small rural mining town called Candle, Alaska on December 27, 1906 to his Iñupiaq mother and Russian Jewish father; and

WHEREAS: Mala was fluent in both English and Iñupiaq, and was a skilled hunter who learned the Iñupiaq values and way of life from his maternal grandmother Nancy Armstrong; and

WHEREAS: Mala persevered in his personal and professional life, though he lost his family in 1920 to the flu epidemic and experienced the adversity of racism throughout his lifetime; and

WHEREAS: Mala starred in his first film at the age of 16, and in a career spanning three decades Mala appeared in 25 films and is recognized as the first major Native American movie star; and

WHEREAS: In the early 1920s, Mala accompanied Knud Rasmussen on The Great Sled Journey, filming and documenting Inuit songs and legends, contributing to the knowledge and preservation of Inuit culture; and

WHEREAS: Mala recognized the excitement and interest of the world in the great serum run to Nome in 1925 and worked as a cameraman with musher Gunnar Kaasen to re-enact the delivery of the serum in daylight used in newsreels worldwide, lead to his career with Fox Studios as a cinematographer; and

WHEREAS: In 1933, Mala became the first non-white actor to play a leading role in a Hollywood film, which was titled "Eskimo", the first full length feature film shot

in Alaska and shot in a Native American language, which also won the first Oscar for Best Film Editing; and

WHEREAS: In addition to acting, Mala was a talented cinematographer working with Oscar winning filmmakers such as Joseph LaShelle, Alfred Hitchcock, and Cecil B. DeMille; and

WHEREAS: Mala successfully overcame adversity, saw opportunity and achieved his dreams while raising awareness of Alaska Natives, their talents and contributions to American culture as a whole; and

WHEREAS: Today, Alaska Natives are following in Ray Mala's footsteps participating in the performing arts, raising awareness of the artistic talents of Alaska Natives and promoting Alaska Native and Native American culture; and

WHEREAS: Alaska Native musicians such as Pamyua, filmmakers like Andrew MacLean, actors such as Irene Bedard, and reality television stars such as Ariel Tweto are contributing to a vibrant modern Alaska Native and American culture.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates to the 2013 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. that AFN recognizes and honors Ray Mala and other Alaska Natives in the performing arts for their contributions to the Alaska Native community and American culture and recommends that Ray Mala be added to the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

SUBMITTED BY: NANA REGIONAL CORPORATION & BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORPORATION

COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS

CONVENTION ACTION:

Subsistence

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 AFN CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-3

Title: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NORTH PACIFIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL TO REDUCE THE CHINOOK BY-CATCH TO NO MORE THAN 20,000, SUPPORTING FUNDING FOR RESEARCH ON CLIMATE CHANGE, AND PRIORITIZING ACCESS FOR SPECIFIED SUBSISTENCE USERS TO ENHANCE ESCAPEMENT

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 Federation of Natives (AFN) fully supports all of its members in all aspects of their self-determination, health and well-being, and

Whereas: We are very concerned about the returns of the Chinook salmon which our ancestors relied on for survival; and

Whereas: Alaska's native people have helped manage our subsistence resources from time immemorial until the creation of territory, State of Alaska, Alaska Native Claims Settlement act; and

Whereas: We continue to get reports on the high seas by-catch of Chinook salmon and reports of throwing away the carcasses into the ocean; and

Whereas: People in the Kuskokwim have observed significant changes in our climate that may affect the returns, both the current habitat, and the temperatures in the oceans; and

Whereas: There have been significant population increases in the community of Bethel and some of the villages; and

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the Delegates to the 2013 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. requests the AVCP and TCC member Tribes create an Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.

Further be it resolved that; The North Pacific Fisheries Management Council further reduces the By Catch of Chinook to 20,000 and if possible a lower number

Be It Further Resolved That the Alaska Federation of Natives supports Association of Village Council Presidents request for funding to do research the impacts of Climate Change in our habitats and the Bering Sea and the Pacific Ocean

Be It Further Resolved That the Alaska Federation of Natives request in order to enhance immediate impact on the Chinook escapements on the Kuskokwim, that we start off the season with only federally qualified users, ceremonial, Elders, and the disabled.

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

SUBMITTED BY: Association of Village Council Presidents
COMMITTEE ACTION: Refer to Board
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 AFN CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-4

- TITLE: PROTECTION OF ALASKA NATIVE SUBSISTENCE PRIORITY IN FEDERAL REVIEW OF RURAL QUALIFICATION CRITERIA AND CURRENT FAILURE OF COMPLIANCE WITH CONGRESSIONAL INTENT FOR TITLE VIII OF ANILCA
- WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 Federation of Natives (AFN) fully supports all of its members in all aspects of their self-determination, health and well-being; and
- WHEREAS: The current rural determination criteria to qualify for the federal subsistence priority under Title VIII of ANILCA is primarily based upon arbitrary human population numbers from the Lower 48 that do not reflect the subsistence way of life in Alaska; and
- WHEREAS: Congressional intent language for, and the primary purpose of Title VIII of ANILCA specifically stated that it was to address matters left unresolved in passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, specifically regarding the promise of protecting the hunting and fishing rights of Alaska's Native people, when the extinguishment of those same aboriginal hunting and fishing rights was included in that document without the foreknowledge or informed consent of Alaska Natives; and
- WHEREAS: The implementation of federal subsistence management priority criteria that is based on arbitrary population numbers based on "Lower 48" standards has denied the inclusion of many Alaska Native populations from being considered "eligible" for the federal subsistence priority, and threatens continued diminishment of more in the future due to in-migration among other factors, by social groups who do not have the direct cultural, spiritual economic or physical relationships that are integral to the recognized patterns of subsistence use and way of life of rural Alaska or its Native Peoples; and
- WHEREAS: Current management implementation of the subsistence priority through an arbitrary population number does not address problems incurred by

increasing pressures on subsistence resources from opportunistic, recreational or highly suspect aspects of commercial abuse under the protective guise of subsistence use, rather than the maintenance of any semblance for the direct social or cultural needs associated with the purpose of subsistence priority protections in rural Alaska; and

WHEREAS: Rural subsistence use priority in Alaska is, and should be properly defined, as people's generational engagement in recognized patterns of use in resource harvest activities, where they can (and have) survived without the interventional "management assistance" of having their food delivered to them through exterior means common to both urban and rural areas of the "Lower 48" ; and

WHEREAS: It is a commonly understood practice that definitions or implementation criteria should reflect the intent and purpose of the enacting legislation which the current criteria fail to do; and

WHEREAS: Application of the subsistence priority with an arbitrary population number is in direct contradiction to the expressed congressional intent for Title VIII of ANILCA that results in the phasing out of Alaska Natives subsistence use participation through a highly foreseeable and perhaps predetermined assimilative process, so that when a community reaches a certain population level the Native people of that community may no longer qualify for retainment of federal recognition for their cultural, spiritual or physical ties to the subsistence use of those resources that comprises the very core of their existence; and

WHEREAS: It has been stated by Congressional members that they want to see an administrative fix for this problem that to date the Federal Subsistence Board has been unable, or otherwise chosen not to productively address regarding these concerns; and

WHEREAS: Aggregating communities in bush Alaska to come up with higher base population numbers to determine rural eligibility further threatens diminishment and disenfranchisement of Native peoples' priority access to subsistence resources which Title VIII of ANILCA was created to protect; and

WHEREAS: There are separate and standing directives from both the Secretary of Interior Salazar to address the "broken" system for subsistence management in Alaska and further broad Presidential directive to address substantive improvement in resolving issues of concern for Native Americans in general

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the Alaska Federation of Natives asserts that in any implementation of the rural subsistence priority criteria by the Federal Subsistence Board, that it incorporate protections to first limit participation to those who are actively engaged in recognized patterns of subsistence use by allowing only

established customary and traditional use activities (such as fish camp drying and smoking of salmon), to those who actively practice them (most especially on species of concern such as AYK King Salmon); and preclude opportunistic abuse by sport, recreational, commercial or other personal use interests such as unlimited access, harvest and exportation, merely from short term residency that exists under current regulatory processes that degrade rural Alaska's subsistence use based on formulas created for the lower 48 states

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the Federal Subsistence Board chooses a no action approach to address this problem administratively, that they at least accomplish their duty of representing Alaska Native/Tribal concerns by informing both the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture of this non-compliance with congressional intent in Title VIII of ANILCA and advocate action to have it rectified

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this issue be forwarded to Alaska's Congressional delegation for action in the coming year and ongoing until satisfactorily resolved through all avenues deemed necessary or appropriate.

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

SUBMITTED BY: Association of Village Council Presidents
COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 AFN CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-5

TITLE: REQUESTING THE STATE OF ALASKA TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT THE OPERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ALASKA MIGRATORY BIRD CO-MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 Federation of Natives (AFN) fully supports all of its members in all aspects of their self-determination, health and well-being, and

WHEREAS: The U.S. Senate ratification of the Migratory Bird Treaty Protocol Amendments of 1997 created the co-management body of the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-management Council; and

WHEREAS: The Alaska Migratory Bird Co-management Council currently consists of a representative of the United States Fish & Wildlife Service, the State of Alaska and nine Alaska Native representatives from nine regions of Alaska; and

WHEREAS: Since the creation of the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-management Council, the organization has been solely funded by the United States Fish & Wildlife Service; and

WHEREAS: Many of the proposals submitted and regulations adopted by the co-management council impact not only the Alaska Native people, but other inhabitants of "included areas;" and

WHEREAS: Alaska Natives are citizens of the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS: The State of Alaska, through its membership in the co-management of migratory birds, plays an important role in the consideration and adoption of subsistence hunting regulations of migratory birds in Alaska; and

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the Alaska Federation of Natives requests the State of Alaska, by an annual appropriation by the Alaska State Legislature and support of the Governor of Alaska, to financially support the operation of the Alaska

Migratory Bird Co-management Council and implementation of the provisions in the Migratory Bird Treaty Protocol Amendments of 1997.

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

SUBMITTED BY: Association of Village Council Presidents
COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 AFN CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-6

- TITLE: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE MAGNUSON-STEVENSON FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT
- WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 Federation of Natives (AFN) fully supports all of its members in all aspects of their self-determination, health and well-being, and
- WHEREAS: The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) governs management of fisheries within the United States 'Exclusive Economic Zone' from three to two hundred nautical miles offshore; and
- WHEREAS: Fisheries and marine resources and habitat are important sources of nutrition, essential part of the culture, diet, and economy for Alaska's federally recognized tribes. Marine fish, shellfish and plants are critical resources for subsistence harvests, and marine habitats support a broad variety of species which are essential to subsistence; and
- WHEREAS: The fisheries of the United States are also important and contribute to the Nation's economy by providing employment in industrial commercial, commercial, and sport fishing; and
- WHEREAS: The MSA established a system of eight regional management Councils to make recommendation to the Secretary of Commerce regarding management of fisheries in federal waters offshore; and
- WHEREAS: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council has management authority over fisheries off the coast of Alaska and consists of 11 members; and
- WHEREAS: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council makes decisions which impact Alaska tribes and subsistence dramatically, yet Alaska's tribes do not have secure representation on the Council; and

WHEREAS: The word “subsistence” appears in the MSA only once in reference to the Western Pacific; and

WHEREAS: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council manages salmon by catch in The trawl fisheries in accordance with the MSA, and by catch reduction is not Strictly required in the current Act; and

WHEREAS: The current language of the MSA does not allow federal fishery disaster declarations for subsistence fisheries and tribes cannot request and receive disaster relief directly; and

Whereas: The regional fishery management councils are not required to conduct government-to-government consultations with tribes; and

Whereas: Congress is currently in the process of reauthorizing the MSA; and

Be It Further Resolved that the Alaska Federation of Natives seek the following changes to the MSA in the reauthorization:

1. Provide for tribal representation on the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) by:
 - a. Add a voting member to the NPFMC under 16 USC § 1852 (b). This member will be nominated directly by Alaska’s tribes and appointed by the Secretary of Commerce.
 - b. Include tribal subsistence in the list of user groups amongst whom the Secretary must maintain a balanced apportionment under 16 USC § 1852(b) (2) (B).
2. Amend the MSA to include subsistence, along with commercial and recreational fisheries and fishing communities throughout the Act.
3. Remove the \$25,000 annual limit on by catch fines for North Pacific fisheries conservation and provide for funds to be directed to the AYKSSI and Inter-tribal Fish Commissions (16 USC § 1862 (g)).
4. Mandate reductions in by catch by strengthening National Standard 9, which currently only requires by catch reduction “to the extent practicable.”
5. Amend disaster relief provisions to include subsistence fishery failures and allow Tribes to request and receive disaster relief direct by (16 USC § 1861(a)).
6. Require regional fishery management councils to consult with tribal governments directly.

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

SUBMITTED BY: ASSOCIATION OF VILLAGE COUNCIL PRESIDENTS
COMMITTEE ACTION: REFER TO BOARD
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-7

- TITLE: FEDERAL PRIORITY OF INDIGENOUS HUNTING, FISHING, TRAPPING AND GATHERING
- WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 Native hunting and fishing practices, including the harvesting and sharing of fish, game, and other resources and the ceremonies which accompany these practices are essential to the social, cultural, spiritual, and economic wellbeing and survival of the Alaska Native people; and
- WHEREAS: In the passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971, Congress expected both the Secretary of Interior and the State of Alaska to uphold their promise to “take any action necessary to protect the subsistence needs of the Natives;” and
- WHEREAS: The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 was enacted to establish a rural subsistence priority on all Alaska’s lands and waters, but because Alaska’s constitution will not allow for a geographical preference, the ANILCA scheme has not been implemented and federal management of more than 60% of Alaska’s lands and waters continue; and
- WHEREAS: There has been no leadership by the Alaska Governor or the Alaska legislature to recommend amendments to the Alaska constitution to end the dual management systems, despite the Alaska citizens’ willingness to amend; and
- WHEREAS: Alaska’s current federal-state dual management does not include Alaska Native tribal participation, and fails to provide sustainable yield for critical traditional and customary species thus resulting in harmful reduction in Alaska Native hunting, fishing, trapping and gathering practices

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2013 Annual Convention of the AFN
urges Congress enact legislation providing for a priority for indigenous hunting,
fishing, trapping and gathering on all Alaskan lands and waters

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

SUBMITTED BY: TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE

COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS

CONVENTION ACTION:

Health, Safety, Welfare

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-8

- TITLE: ALASKA SAFE FAMILIES AND VILLAGES ACT OF 2013 AND REPEAL OF SECTION 910 OF THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT
- WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 been working for many years to improve the socio-economic status of Alaska Native people, especially for Native women and children in our villages; and
- WHEREAS: Despite the best efforts of many people, including Alaska Native leaders, there remains a serious, seemingly intractable, problem of violence, child abuse and neglect, and alcohol addiction in our state; and
- WHEREAS: Alaska Native women suffer the highest rate of forcible sexual assault in the United States; an Alaska Native woman is sexually assaulted every 18 hours, and according to the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, 1 in 2 Alaska Native women experience physical or sexual violence in their lifetime; and
- WHEREAS: While there are many contributing factors to the violence in our communities, the lack of an effective, local enforcement and judicial presence in our villages is a critical gap and significant reason for the current situation; and
- WHEREAS: Tribal governments in Alaska need to be able to protect their citizens through a coordinated community response; tribal courts can intervene earlier and more effectively by dealing with offenders in their own communities; and
- WHEREAS: AFN urged Congress to include protections for Alaska Native victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking in any final bill reauthorizing the Violence Against Women Act; and
- WHEREAS: The final version of the reauthorization of the VAWA of 2013 contained a “Special Rule for the State of Alaska” in Section 910 which applied sections 904 and 905 of VAWA only to the Metlakatla Indian Community, Annette Island Reserve; and

WHEREAS: Since passage of the VAWA and Alaska’s exclusion from the tribal provisions of the Act, AFN and tribal advocates have been working with the Alaska delegation to draft new legislation that would give tribes in Alaska the additional tools they need to unravel the complexities of what is going on – the root causes, the secondary causes, sociological efforts of how to change individual or group behavior, generational issues, public health issues and strategies, resource shortages, and jurisdictional issues between federal, state and tribal governments; and

WHEREAS: Early discussions with the Congressional staff on a draft Alaska Safe Families and Villages Act centered on recognition of tribal authority over drug and alcohol related offenses through a pilot project which acknowledged tribal court jurisdiction over such matters and the repeal of Section 910 of the VAWA; and

WHEREAS: On August 1, 2013, Senators Begich and Murkowski introduced S. 1474, the “Alaska Safe Families and Villages Act of 2013,” that encourages the State of Alaska to enter into intergovernmental agreements with Indian tribes in Alaska, and repeals section 910 of the VAWA; and

WHEREAS: In light of objections from the State of Alaska, the bill that was introduced no longer contains the tribal authority/jurisdiction provisions, but rather focuses almost entirely on intergovernmental agreements between the State of Alaska and tribes that would allow tribes to enforce certain state laws; and

WHEREAS: AFN supports the repeal of Section 910 of the VAWA, and believes intergovernmental agreements can be an additional tool for Alaska’s tribes, but also believes that the bill needs to be amended to add provisions recognizing tribal authority to handle civil matters related to drug and alcohol offenses locally, through implementation of tribal laws and enforcement by tribal courts; and

WHEREAS: AFN has committed to working with our Senators to strengthen the bill and to obtain an early hearing and markup of the bill.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates to the Alaska Federation of Natives 2013 Annual Convention, that the Alaska Congressional delegation work with AFN and tribal leaders to amend S.1474, to establish an “Alaska Safe Families and Villages Self-Governance Project” within the Office of Tribal Justice Programs that will enable Alaska’s tribes to exercise concurrent jurisdiction with the State over civil matters involving drug and alcohol related offenses within their villages and to impose civil sanctions consistent with their laws and the Indian Civil Rights Act, including restorative justice, community service, fines and other remedies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Justice Department work with Alaska Native leaders to obtain the repeal of Section 910 of VAWA and amendments to S.1474 that would recognize and support Alaska tribes' authority to handle civil matters locally through implementation

of tribal laws and enforcement by their own courts and commit to providing adequate and stable funding for tribal courts in Alaska; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State of Alaska be encouraged to support amendments to S.1474, and other efforts of Alaska's tribes' to bring their resources to the table to better address the unacceptable and disproportionate instances of crimes, civil disturbances, suicide, child abuse, sexual assault, domestic violence and alcohol and drug abuse that continue to plague our communities.

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

SUBMITTED BY: COUNCIL FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-9

TITLE: IN SUPPORT OF FULL FUNDING FOR NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF DETERMINATION (NAHASDA) 2013 & 2014 FISCAL YEAR FUNDING

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) program, created by the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) is a primary source of funding in Alaska for affordable housing and housing-related activities for low-income Alaska Native and American Indian families; and

WHEREAS: The IHBG program enables Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) to develop and operate elder and family rental housing, develop homes for homeownership, provide affordable home loans and down payment assistance, deliver housing readiness counseling, issue tenant-based and project-based rental assistance vouchers, provide weatherization upgrades, combat homelessness, and provide supportive housing for individuals with special needs; and

WHEREAS: The Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) provides funding to tribes each year for infrastructure and community facility development; and

WHEREAS: NAHASDA funding enables Tribes and TDHEs to leverage significant additional public and private sector resources to serve the affordable housing needs of Alaska Native and American Indian families; and

WHEREAS: NAHASDA has proven to be effective in addressing the severe shortage of safe, affordable housing in Indian country by enabling Tribes and TDHEs throughout the U.S. to construct 8,130 homeownership and 5,011 rental units, acquire 3,811 homeownership and 800 rental units, and rehabilitate 27, 422 homeownership and 5,289 rental units from 2003 to 2008 alone; and

WHEREAS: Despite the many successes and innovations that may be attributed to NAHASDA, housing conditions in Indian Country remain far inferior to those of the general U.S. population; and

WHEREAS: Although Congress may consider reductions to many federally funded programs as a result of the U.S. budget deficit, NAHASDA has proven to be an extremely effective tool for both direct and indirect job creation, providing education and training opportunities in the construction trades; and helping to stabilize communities by building high performing homes that are greatly assisting in national goals to reduce the use of fossil fuels and overall energy costs of low-income homebuyers and renters

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates to the 2013 Annual Convention of Alaska Federation of Natives Inc., that Congress and the President approve FY 2013 & 2014 Indian Housing Block Grant (NAHASDA) funding at NO LESS THAN \$700 million and funding for the Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) at the President's proposed amount of \$100 million.

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

SUBMITTED BY: COUNCIL FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-10

- TITLE: IN SUPPORT OF S. 1575, A BILL TO CORRECT THE INCONSISTENCIES IN THE DEFINITIONS OF "INDIAN" FOR HEALTH CARE PURPOSES
- WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 Tribes and Tribal organizations have assumed responsibility for all direct health services of the Indian Health Service in the State of Alaska and serve the approximately 145,000 Alaska Natives and American Indians (AN/AIs) in Alaska;
- WHEREAS: in recognition of the unacceptable health status of AN/AIs and the federal government's trust responsibility to AN/AIs, Congress enacted the Indian Health Care Improvement Act in 1976 (Public Law 94-437) to ensure that the health care services were made available to and reached all AN/AI people; and
- WHEREAS: the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Affordable Care Act or ACA) (Public Law 111-148) was enacted on March 23, 2010, to reform the health insurance market and make health care coverage more accessible and affordable for all Americans; and
- WHEREAS: the ACA contains a number of provisions designed to ensure that AN/AIs can take advantage of the new reforms, such as cost-sharing protections, monthly enrollment options, and a mandatory enrollment penalty exemption specific to individual AN/AIs (referred to generally as "Indian" in the ACA); and
- WHEREAS: definitions of the term "Indian" in many parts of the ACA are unduly narrow, restrictive and are not consistent with the definition used for current delivery of other federally-supported health services to AN/AIs under Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) program and from the Indian Health Service (IHS); and

WHEREAS: this inconsistency in definitions will result in many AN/AIs individuals being denied access to cost-sharing protections and special monthly enrollment periods intended for them; and

WHEREAS: on October 16, 2013, Senator Mark Begich, along with Senators Max Baucus, Brian Schatz and Tom Udall introduced S. 1575, that would streamline the definitions of “Indian” in the ACA and bring them into alignment with the definitions used for current delivery of other federally-supported health services to AN/AIs; and

WHEREAS: S.1575 would also guarantee that AI/ANs are not subjected to tax penalties for not maintaining the minimum essential insurance coverage under the ACA, even though they are eligible for Indian health care programs.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates to the 2013 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives Inc., that in order to ensure that Alaska Natives and American Indians receive the benefits and special protections intended for them in the ACA, and that the definition of Indian in the ACA is consistent with the definition of “Indian” provided in the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) regulations at 42 CFR 447.50, Congress is urged to enact S.1575.

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

SUBMITTED BY: COUNCIL FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-11

TITLE: TO AMEND THE ALASKA NATIVE EDUCATION EQUITY ACT AND UTILIZE ALL LEGISLATIVE TOOLS TO ENSURE THAT FUNDING IS ADMINISTERED BY ALASKA NATIVE ORGANIZATIONS

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 Native Education Equity Act was enacted by Congress in 2002 and provides approximately \$33 million per year in funding for programs across the State that address the needs of Alaska Native students—from early childhood education to secondary school preparation programs; and

WHEREAS: The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) does not contribute funds to the education of Alaska Native students; and

WHEREAS: The Alaska Native Education Equity Act authorizes the use of funds under the Act for the development of curriculum and educational programs that reflect and are aligned with the cultural diversity, language and contributions of Alaska Native people and for other supplemental educational programs that support Alaska Native college and career readiness; and

WHEREAS: The Alaska Native Educational Equity Act states that it is the policy of the Federal Government to encourage maximum participation by Alaska Native people in the planning and management of Alaska Native Education programs; and

WHEREAS: The Act also authorizes the Department of Education to fund programs under this act administered by Alaska Native Organizations, educational entities and cultural and community-based organizations; and

WHEREAS: Assessments of grant funding reflects the following:

- Fewer awards granted to Alaska Native Organizations
- More awards to school districts, University of Alaska, and other organizations, and

- Alaska Native Organizations may be identified as “Partners” with school districts, University of Alaska, or other organizations, but in actuality have little to no control or oversight of the grant development, implementation, and programs; and

WHEREAS: School Districts and Universities have access to other funding for which Alaska Native Organization are ineligible to apply; and

WHEREAS: The Act specifically prioritizes funding for Alaska Native regional nonprofit organizations or consortia that include such Alaska Native organizations; and

WHEREAS: Native Cultures and Languages have been documented to serve as resilience factors in youth, and inclusion of such content in meaningful ways can support academic success; and

WHEREAS: Alaska Native corporations, organizations, and tribes throughout the State of Alaska are working to improve Native Education through intentional and strategic programs that utilize culturally relevant curricula; and

WHEREAS: Over the last ten years, Alaska Native Organizations have successfully demonstrated that they can provide programs that improve academic performance of Alaska Native students; and

WHEREAS: Alaska Native Organizations, working in partnerships with Schools, Universities, or other Organizations as the lead can ensure the success of Alaska Native students;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Alaska Federation of Natives supports the continuation of Alaska Native Education Equity Act funding in order to meet the dire needs of Alaska Native students, and urges the Alaska delegation to pursue every means possible to ensure inclusion and continuation of the Alaska Native Education Equity Act in the Reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and to ensure that sufficient funding for the program is appropriated and authorized; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Alaska Federation of Natives further urges Congress to take action to ensure that grants funded by the Alaska Native Educational Equity Program are administered through Alaska Native Organizations and as lead grantees with partners, and that the Department of Education consults with Alaska Native Organizations to identify programmatic priority areas for future funding.

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

SUTMITTED BY: COUNCIL FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES

CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-12

- TITLE: SUPPORT LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS TO STRENGTHEN PUBLIC LAW 102-477 PROGRAMMING BY UPHOLDING TRIBAL MANAGEMENT OVER FEDERAL AGENCY FUNDS IN AN INTEGRATED EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAM
- WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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: P.L. 102-477, the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Demonstration Act of 1992, has proven to be an exceptional success in making existing federal programming more effective in meeting the employment, training, education and welfare reform needs of Tribes and Tribal Organizations; and
- WHEREAS: P.L. 102-477 substantially reduces the administrative cost and time to manage integrated programs, promotes efficiency, and expands ability to provide services; and
- WHEREAS: P.L. 102-477 promotes increasing the cooperation and coordination of federal agencies with regard to Tribes and Tribal Organizations; and
- WHEREAS: P.L. 102-477 fully embodies the concepts of Tribal Self-Governance and Self-Determination found in the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act; and
- WHEREAS: 61 contractors and compactors, representing 264 Tribes and Tribal Organizations, have successfully adopted P.L. 102-477 in the administration of Tribal employment, training, education and welfare reform programs; and
- WHEREAS: Alaska Native Tribes and Tribal organizations run 17 of the 61 programs and include 217 of the 264 Tribes and Tribal Organizations in the 477 program.
- WHEREAS: the P.L. 102-477 program received one of the highest Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART) rating in the Department of the Interior Indian Affairs by the Office of Management and Budget; and

WHEREAS: despite the record of Tribal success with P.L. 102-477, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has historically resisted, without appropriate Tribal consultation, to fully participate in the P.L. 102-477 Program; and

WHEREAS: Tribes and Tribal Organizations have been forced to withdraw their proposed 477 plans because DHHS denies or significantly delays approval to the detriment of Tribal employment and training programs; and

WHEREAS: the Office of Management and Budget through mid-year compliance guidelines to Circular A-133 in 2009 retroactively required Tribes and Tribal Organizations to account for 477 funds by funding source, contrary to the intent of the P.L. 102-477 legislation; and

WHEREAS: the Department of Education is an identified federal partner according to the law, but has not entered into agreements as required by the law; and

WHEREAS: the attempts by federal agencies to undermine the intent of P.L. 102-477, and the will of Congress, damages Indian Self-Governance and Self-Determination, the 477 demonstration project and the concept of Tribal program integration.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that AFN does hereby strongly urge the US Senate and House of Representatives to pass legislation (currently SB 1547) with the intent of clarifying any questions or doubts or lingering loopholes exploited by DHHS or any federal agency to the detriment of Tribal programming.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that AFN supports the proposed legislative amendments of the P.L. 102-477 Tribal Work Group to make P.L. 102-477 a permanent piece of federal legislation, include other federal agencies, require funding through Public Law 93-638 contracts and compacts and eliminate any audit requirements for separate accounting by funding source.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that AFN urges the immediate and categorical withdrawal of OMB Cross-Cutting Guidelines that require that tribes and tribal organizations account for programs by individual CFDA numbers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that AFN urges the Department of Health and Human Services to issue its opinion that HHS funds are eligible for the flexibility allowed under PL 102-477; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the 2013 Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives, that AFN requests the US Senate and House of Representatives to pass SB 1574.

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

SUBMITTED BY: COUNCIL FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES

CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 AFN CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-13

Title: RESTORING NATIVE AMERICAN INDIGENOUS RIGHTS TO ADDRESS THE CRISIS OF SUICIDE AND OTHER SOCIAL CHALLENGES FACING OUR COMMUNITIES

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 In 2009 the Senate on Indian Affairs Committee held a hearing on “Youth Suicide in Indian Country” and described the situation as a crisis and called upon the federal government to establish policies, programs and funding to focus on the suicidal behavior through the Native American communities; and

Whereas Senate Bill 84, supported by Nevada Senator Harry Reid, declared suicide a national problem and sought to make suicide a national priority; and

Whereas For over 35+ years Native Americans suicide rate between the age 10 to 34 is 70% higher than the general U.S. Population; suicide is the second leading cause of death for Native Americans; in fact, the rate of suicide among youth on Indian reservations is three times greater than any other youth population and we often face cluster of suicide situations; and

Whereas Suicide combined with other social problems such as sexual assault, substance abuse, limited economic opportunities, low academic achievement and high suicide rates, all contribute to the destruction of Alaska Native American Indian families, leaving behind a trail of untold sadness, violence and grief; and

Whereas Many Alaska Native and Native American communities are isolated, are plagued with high unemployment, high accidental deaths, alcoholism, social issues, and limited or no law enforcement and mental health services; and

Whereas Suicide is rapidly destroying generations of Alaska Native and Native American families, both in a slow suicide from alcohol and drug abuse to a fast suicide of immediate death and in certain communities, the trauma, grieving and loss can impact entire families comprised, once healthy generations; and

Whereas The Indian Health Service and other agency funding for mental health services have faced cutbacks and even elimination; thus leaving Native American

communities without treatment facilities and services that do not exist on many of these affected communities; and

Whereas Since time immemorial Alaska Native and Native American have been wealthy in resources and have a quality of life and continue to live the indigenous way of life that has been passed down from generation to generation that consist of unique culture values and teachings, traditional use of fish and wildlife, the gathering of resources, and the spiritual connection to all that is existing within the ancestral homelands; and

Whereas Alaska Native and Native American have a spiritual and sacred responsibility that consist of laws and teachings held in trust by our elders, and they are the best to share and to ensure our quality of life for today and generations to come is preserved; and

Whereas Alaska Native and Native Americans continue to find solutions with federal agencies to address the need for new policies, laws and agreements that can restore and support a quality of life that has sustained the survival of indigenous people across the nation for generations; and

Whereas Alaska Native and Native American continue to support one another by sharing various programs that recognize the fine balance of youth being raised in two worlds of traditional teaching and western education as tools that incorporate social technology for networking, information gathering and sharing, and thus a way that respects the young people's ways to reach out to in the best way possible and to help youth express themselves with today's technology; and

Whereas Alaska Native and Native American continue to face the detrimental impacts from the loss of land, water and resources thus facing the crisis of suicide, abuse and other critical situations that continue to destroy the life Alaska Native and Native American have known for time immemorial.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved by the delegates of the Alaska Federation of Natives that Suicide and Abuse Crisis in Alaska Native and Native American Communities must be addressed and is a key part of our survival.

Be It Further Resolved that Alaska Federation of Natives urges congress to restore Indian Health Service and other agency funding to levels that provide protection and prevention for a more vibrant way of life

Be It Further Resolved that Alaska Native and Native Americans need to be recognized by local, state and federal agencies to address jurisdictional challenges and develop and implement tools and policies to provide us the capacity to address dark challenges such as suicide and social situations effecting our communities.

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

SUBMITTED BY: Association of Village Council Presidents
COMMITTEE ACTION: Refer to board
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-14

TITLE: PROTECT ALASKA NATIVE WOMEN

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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: All nations, including tribal sovereign nations honor, respect, and hold sacred our Native women; retain our inherent right to live according to our life-affirming customs and traditions which regulates respectful boundaries for relationships among villagers; and

WHEREAS: Alaska is home to 229 or 40% of federally recognized tribes; one Native village-based off road women's shelter (the Emmonak Women's Shelter, operating since 1979); and one tribal nonprofit domestic violence and sexual assault coalition (the Yup'ik Women's Coalition operating since 2006); and

WHEREAS: less than 100 of Alaska's 200 plus rural villages are served by local, trained State law enforcement officers, many of whom are in need of culturally appropriate training on how to work with tribes and Native people within the villages; and

WHEREAS: Alaska Native villages suffer disproportionately from crimes rooted in a disruption of Alaska Native customs and traditions, which is evident with some of the highest rates of domestic and sexual violence, alcohol/substance abuse, suicide, teen pregnancy, removal and separation of children from their families, and diseases such as diabetes; and

WHEREAS: the rates of missing or murdered Alaska Native women, and women and girls who are victims of sex trafficking have been largely ignored by the current justice systems and law enforcement; and

WHEREAS: according to the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium's Epidemiology Center, Alaska Native women are disproportionately affected by both domestic and sexual violence, and by the time Alaska Native women reach adulthood, women

are 51% likely to have been a victim, or more specifically 1 out of 2 women have experienced physical and/or sexual violence; and

WHEREAS: the Federal government has a trust responsibility to Alaska Native tribes; and

WHEREAS: the Federal government and the State of Alaska have not allocated sufficient resources to Alaska Native tribes, especially those in rural, remote off-road communities to address these issues. In fact, both governments have supported laws, policies, and practices that have limited Alaska Tribal governments' authority to protect and ensure the health and well-being of our citizens, and thus created an environment where Alaska Native women are perceived and treated as little more than property; and

WHEREAS: given the high rates of crimes and other issues, an equitable set aside is required of Federal and state resources for Alaska Native tribes to develop, implement and sustain local, culturally relevant solutions to effectively, immediately and comprehensively address the health, safety and welfare of community members, and hold offenders and predators accountable to put an end to the serial nature of their crimes and injustices; and

WHEREAS: the State of Alaska has not complied with Sec. 2265 of the Violence Against Women Act, which requires the State to give full faith and credit to tribal protection orders; and

WHEREAS: the final version of the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act of 2013 contained a "Special Rule for the State of Alaska" in Section 910, which thereby excluded Alaska's Tribes (with the exception of Metlakatla Indian Community, Annette Island Reserve from sections 904 and 905 of VAWA; and

WHEREAS: AFN urged Congress to include protections for Alaska Native women in VAWA 2013, yet these requests were ignored; and

WHEREAS: because these crimes are geographically far removed from the rest of the country, they continue to rise and offenders and predators continue to commit their serial crimes with impunity; and

WHEREAS: two of the United Nations Special Rapporteurs on Violence against Women and on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples called on the United States to reauthorize the Violence against Women Act with provisions that would enhance protections for all Native women.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates to the 2013 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc., that

1. the Federal agencies with responsibility for responding to violence against women, including but not limited to, the U.S. Department of Justice, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Indian Health Service, honor the federal trust responsibility to Alaska Natives by conducting annual, coordinated consultations with Alaska's tribes; and
2. the Federal government take a more active role in ending the unconscionable epidemic of violence against Alaska Native women and children, by
 - a. opening an Alaska District Office on Violence Against Women and ensuring meaningful access to Alaska Natives who are Limited English Proficient (LEP) and challenged by inconsistent Internet access, in order to ensure equitable access of critical resources to Alaska tribes, Native designed and operated shelters, and the Yup'ik Women's Coalition; and
 - b. repeal Section 910 of VAWA 2013 which excludes Alaska Native women from the safety, justice and services all other women in the United States are now eligible to receive; and
 - c. Through the U.S. Department of Justice, assist Alaska Native tribes with accessing and entering tribal protection orders into national protection order registries; and
 - d. provide separate annual, non-competitive funding resources to Alaska Native tribes, for life-saving services, including but not limited to law enforcement, advocacy, shelter and victim services, sexual assault forensic examinations in rural villages and Native designed and operated batterers re-education services; and
 - e. through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration on Children, Youth and Families work closely with the Yup'ik Women's Coalition and other long time Native women's advocates to support the creation of an Alaska Native Resource Center to Increase the Safety of Native Women, as identified in the Reauthorization of 2010; and
3. The Alaska Federation of Natives establishes a Task Force to Increase the Safety of Native Women, co-chaired by an Alaska Native woman's village-based advocate and a tribal leader.

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

Submitted by: VILLAGE OF TETLIN AND KENAITZE INDIAN TRIBE
COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
Resolution 13-15

- TITLE: A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SOUTHCENTRAL FOUNDATION'S NUKA SYSTEM OF CARE
- WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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: Southcentral Foundation is the regional Alaska Native nonprofit health organization operating under the tribal authority of Cook Inlet Region, Inc. (CIRI), pursuant to P. L. 93-638, Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act; and
- WHEREAS: Southcentral Foundation's Nuka System of Care is designed, managed, and owned by Alaska Native people, and exemplifies self-determination; and
- WHEREAS: the Nuka System of Care was developed as a means for individuals, families communities and the world in which we live to achieve physical, mental, emotional and spiritual wellness; and
- WHEREAS: some 60,000 Alaska Native customer-owners have shaped Southcentral Foundation's Nuka System of Care through shared responsibility and relationship building, courageous quality improvement efforts and innovation; and
- WHEREAS: the data shows that the whole system redesign and transformation led by customer-owners has resulted in improved health outcomes at a lower cost; and
- WHEREAS: Alaska Native people have become renowned as champions of health care improvement and change (earning the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award being lauded in the New York Times, hosting hundreds of visitors to Alaska for the annual Nuka Conference, etc.); and
- WHEREAS: while leaders around the world are struggling to improve quality and access to care, they are looking to the Nuka System of Care as a model; and

WHEREAS: those who have reached out to Southcentral Foundation’s Nuka Institute for assistance as they set out to make changes have achieved better health care; and

WHEREAS: there are opportunities for Alaska Native people and the customer-owned Nuka System of Care to play a larger role in improving health care; and

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska, with membership including 178 villages (both federally-recognized tribes and village corporations), 13 regional Native corporations, and 12 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the AFN, supports Southcentral Foundation’s Nuka System of Care as an example of what is possible in health care reform.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the AFN supports Southcentral Foundation’s Nuka Institute in its efforts to share the Nuka System of Care with Alaska health care organizations and others to expand its capacity to meet the demand for training and technical assistance.

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

SUBMITTED BY: COOK INLET REGIONAL CORPORATION
COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-16

- TITLE: Support for Dr. William Demmert proposed amendment to the Indian Education Act Title VII Elementary and Secondary Education Act
- WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 placed a high priority on the education of Alaska Native children, and as an AFN policy supports Native American Immersion Schools in the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act; and
- WHEREAS: The late Dr. William Demmert(Tlingit) promoted an amendment to Title VII the Indian Education Act that authorizes a new section of Title VII that would support a new formula grant program for Native American Immersion schools from early childhood education centers through secondary schools; and
- WHEREAS: AFN signed a "Joint Policy Statement" in 2008 authored by Dr. Demmert that supports federal funding of Native American Immersion schools. Other signatories included the National Indian Education Association, Native Hawaiian Education Council, National Indian School Board Association, American Indian Higher Education Consortium and Tribal Education Departments National Assembly; and
- WHEREAS: The Elementary and Secondary Education Act is up for reauthorization and the U.S. House of Representatives has passed their version of the ESEA reauthorization and the U.S. Senate Health Education Labor and Pensions Committee passed out of committee their version of the ESEA and both versions of the ESEA do not include the proposed immersion school provision; and
- WHEREAS: A floor amendment is necessary on the U. S. Senate floor if the proposed amendment has any chance of being included in the final version of the ESEA reauthorization.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the delegates to the 2013 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives Inc., that AFN supports the proposed amendment and statutory language that would create a formula grant program through the Indian Education Act to support Native American Immersion schools

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that AFN will request U.S. Senators Lisa Murkowski and Mark Begich to sponsor a floor amendment to include the Immersion school provision within the Senate's version of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act; and that AFN does honor the remarkable life and achievements of the late Dr. William Demmert who was the first Commissioner of Indian Education and primary author of the historic Indian Education Act of 1972.

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

SUBMITTED BY: KENAITZE INDIAN TRIBE
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: DO PASS
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-17

TITLE: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF REAUTHORIZATION OF THE 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 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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: 22% of communities in Rural Alaska and 43 villages are un-served by water and sewer service; and

WHEREAS: the rate of hospitalization for pneumonia, influenza, skin infections, and lower respiratory tract infections is higher for Alaska Native infants and elders in communities with inadequate sanitation services as compared to similar populations in communities with adequate facilities, and are significantly higher than the US 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: the estimated need to bring sanitation services to Rural Alaska is \$667 million; and

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

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates to the 2013 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives Inc., that AFN urges Congress to reauthorize Section 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, the Rural Alaska Village Grant Program.

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

SUBMITTED BY: COUNCIL FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: DO PASS

CONVENTION ACTION:

Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-18

- TITLE: A RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNOR AND THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENSURE THAT THE FULL IMPACT OF POTENTIAL MEDICAID EXPANSION IS CONSIDERED AND TO TAKE COMPLETE ADVANTAGE OF FEDERAL RESOURCES TO EXPAND MEDICAID COVERAGE TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF ALASKANS AND TO IMPROVE THE ALASKAN ECONOMY
- WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 has the option to expand Medicaid benefits by increasing the income eligibility level to 138% of the federal poverty level; and
- WHEREAS: Independent analyses indicate significant benefits to individual Alaskans and to the Alaskan economy; and
- WHEREAS: Approximately 40,000 more Alaskans (including 16,000 Alaska Natives and American Indians) would be covered by Medicaid; and
- WHEREAS: The increase in eligible beneficiaries would provide increased access to care, patient travel and services that individuals are not able to afford, such as glasses, certain dental and other procedures; and
- WHEREAS: Increasing access to care leads to healthier Alaskans; and
- WHEREAS: The State would receive \$1.1 billion in federal revenues for the first seven years of implementation (2014-2020) for a net state contribution of \$23.4 million (\$90.7 million minus \$67.3 in offsets); and
- WHEREAS: 4,000 new jobs would be created with \$1.2 billion in Alaskan wages and salaries throughout Alaska (2014-2020); and

WHEREAS: The multiplier effect of additional resources will benefit the State economy and all Alaskans by an estimated \$2.49 billion in increased economic activity throughout Alaska (2014-2020); and

WHEREAS: Medicaid expansion would benefit health care providers and payers, who are effectively required to subsidize care for uninsured and underinsured patients as well as businesses and other patients who support those subsidies through higher premiums, deductibles and copays. The uninsured and underinsured patients now seek care in the most expensive settings, often after their condition has become more serious and complicated than it would have been if they had access to primary care; and

WHEREAS: The federal match to the State of Alaska would be 100% for 2014-2016, then gradually transition to 90% by 2020 and beyond; and

WHEREAS: This federal match is consistent with the federal match for other programs (roads at 9%; runways at 5%); and

WHEREAS: The State has the option of Medicaid Expansion authorization contingent upon receiving a federal match rate of at least 90%; and

WHEREAS: The State has the option of various Medicaid Expansion demonstration projects it may also consider

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates to the 2013 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives Inc., that that the Alaska Federation of Natives urges the Governor and the Alaska Legislature to continue their efforts to conduct responsible, thorough analyses of potential models for implementing Medicaid expansion to determine their full potential impact on Alaska, including potential improvement to the health status of Alaskans who currently lack sufficient health coverage, enhanced support to businesses involved in the health care industry, the multiplier effect on Alaska's economy, the potential ability to reduce or eliminate cross-subsidies for health care now provided to the uninsured and underinsured and financing models for Alaska

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska Federation of Natives urges the Governor and the Alaska State Legislature to adopt Medicaid expansion effective January 1, 2014 so that so that Alaska residents can benefit from the services at the earliest opportunity.

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

SUBMITTED BY: COUNCIL FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: DO PASS
CONVENTION ACTION:

Alaska Federation of Natives
2013 Annual Convention
Resolution 13-19

TITLE: URGING PRESIDENT OBAMA AND CONGRESS TO PROTECT SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FUNDING

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides financial assistance to low-income individuals and families to purchase food needed for good health; and

WHEREAS: Nearly 30% of Alaska Natives and American Indians live at the poverty level; and

WHEREAS: Rural Alaskan households, which are predominately Alaska Native, use more than half of household income to pay for the rising cost of energy, leaving families with fewer resources for food; and

WHEREAS: More than 91,000 Alaskan households participated in SNAP in fiscal year 2012; and

WHEREAS: Even at current rates, SNAP benefits fall short of covering the gap in costs for food in rural Alaskan communities, where jobs are limited and the cost of living is significantly higher than in urban areas; and

WHEREAS: Congress is considering significantly reducing funding for SNAP in FY2014, which will threaten the health and safety of low income Alaska Native families

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates to the 2013 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. that AFN urges President Obama and Congress to recognize the critical gap in food security that SNAP addresses in Alaska and to protect current funding for SNAP in FY2014.

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

SUBMITTED BY: NANA REGIONAL CORPORATION
COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-20

TITLE: SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG TREATMENT CENTERS IN REGIONAL HUBS

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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, both individuals and families, are significantly affected by the abuse of alcohol and drugs in rural Alaska; and

WHEREAS: there are very limited treatment options for Alaska Natives to receive recovery services in their home regions due to past budget cuts; and

WHEREAS: the majority of crimes and child in need of aid cases in Alaska Native communities are alcohol and drug related and untreated individuals have extremely high recidivism rates; and

WHEREAS: the social costs attributed to alcohol and drug addictions to whole Alaska Native communities are devastating both spiritually and economically; and

WHEREAS: generations of Alaska Natives have been impacted by addictive behaviors and need the cycle of addiction to be broken to attain wellness and improve our quality of life.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates to the 2013 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives Inc., that AFN supports the establishment of alcohol and drug treatment centers in each of the 12 regional hubs that expands the treatment options for Alaska Native individuals and families

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that federal, state and private agencies are called upon for their support, resources and funding for this initiative and long-term social investment.

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

SUBMITTED BY: NATIVE VILLAGE OF KOTZEBUE

COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS

CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-21

TITLE: SUPPORTING PLACEMENT AND TRANSITIONAL HOMES IN THE REGIONAL HUB COMMUNITIES

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 Native women and children experience domestic violence at a higher rate in rural Alaska and need safe temporary homes or housing while in transition; and

WHEREAS: the housing stock is very limited in rural Alaska as well as expensive due to the costs of energy for maintaining a home; and

WHEREAS: children in need of aid (CINA) cases often need emergency/temporary placement until a relative placement or foster home can be secured; and

WHEREAS: there is a shortage of Alaska Native foster homes in rural Alaska.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates to the 2013 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives Inc., that federal, state and private funders are urged to support placement and transitional homes in rural hub communities to address the social needs of Alaska Native children, youth and women

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the support of such homes must be done in cooperation with regional nonprofit organizations to ensure cultural relevance, design and operation.

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

SUBMITTED BY: NATIVE VILLAGE OF KOTZEBUE

COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS

CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-22

TITLE: SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF HOMELESS SHELTERS IN THE REGIONAL HUB COMMUNITIES

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 that experience homelessness in rural areas often are left without any support or resources to assist them through re-establishing themselves and their lives; and

WHEREAS: the cost of housing in rural Alaska is very expensive, including the costs of energy for maintaining a home; and

WHEREAS: homelessness is common among youth and young adults, and often masked in rural Alaska with multiple generations living in a single-overcrowded household; and

WHEREAS: homelessness is also common among individuals addicted to substances that need to “hit bottom” and re-build their lives to escape of the cycle of addictive behaviors.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates to the 2013 annual convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives Inc., that federal, state and private funders are urged to support the statewide development of homeless shelters in rural hub communities to address the social needs of youth/young adults and addicted individuals

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the development of such shelters must be done in cooperation with regional nonprofit organizations, particularly housing authorities, to ensure cultural relevance and design.

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

SUBMITTED BY: NATIVE VILLAGE OF KOTZEBUE
COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-23

- TITLE: ACTION SUPPORTING MEANINGFUL CHEMICALS POLICY REFORM AND NOT SUPPORTING THE CHEMICAL SAFETY IMPROVEMENT ACT (S.1009) AS CURRENTLY DRAFTED
- WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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: In 2000, the Alaska Federation of Natives passed Resolution 00-44 in support of the elimination of persistent pollutants that threaten our health and the health of future generations; and
- WHEREAS: In 2002, the Youth and Elders Conference of the Alaska Federation of Natives passed Resolution EY-17 in support of the elimination of persistent pollutants that threaten our health and the health of future generations; and
- WHEREAS: In 2011, the Alaska Federation of Natives passed Resolution 11-03 in support of protecting the health of present and future generations by preventing toxic exposures through chemicals policy reform; and
- WHEREAS: Toxic exposures continue to threaten our health due to our ineffective and outdated federal law—the Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976 (TSCA) that was intended to regulate chemicals used in commerce; and
- WHEREAS: Today there are more than 80,000 chemicals on the market, most of which have never been tested for safety for human health and the environment; and
- WHEREAS: Many of these chemicals are ultimately found in our traditional foods, our environment, our bodies, and in our homes, even though these chemicals have never been produced in Alaska or the circumpolar Arctic; and
- WHEREAS: Research has demonstrated that Alaska Native and other Native American populations are at higher health risk from certain substances that are toxic,

persistent, and bioaccumulate in the environment, the food web, and in the human body; and

WHEREAS: Studies show that developing children, youth, elders, and those with chronic illnesses are particularly vulnerable to health effects caused by exposure to persistent and toxic chemicals. We are particularly concerned about preventing cancers and other diseases that are known to be associated with chemical exposures. These chemicals also can be passed from a mother to her child and thus harm our future generations; and

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives is concerned about the greater health risks to Alaska Native and Native American Peoples due to our reliance on traditional, subsistence foods integral to our culture; and

WHEREAS: It took more than 35 years for the U.S. federal government to introduce the Chemical Safety Improvement Act (S.1009), a bi-partisan bill that would reform our ineffective federal law TSCA; and

WHEREAS: The Chemical Safety Improvement Act does not provide the health protections that Alaska Native and other Native American Peoples need because it fails to explicitly protect the health of children, elders, pregnant women, and other vulnerable populations such as those communities with disproportionate chemical exposures (“hotspot” communities); and

WHEREAS: Our Alaska Senators Lisa Murkowski and Mark Begich, who currently serve as co-sponsors of the Chemical Safety Improvement Act, must take leadership roles in strengthening and clarifying the bill by including the following provisions: 1) require expedited action on the worst chemicals; 2) ensure the protection of our most vulnerable people; 3) require swift action to address “hotspot” communities that are disproportionately exposed to toxic chemicals; 4) require that chemical manufacturers prove the safety of their products; 5) ensure our right-to-know about chemical exposures and chemical hazards; and 6) require substitution of safe alternatives to replace harmful chemicals; and

WHEREAS: We trust that our Alaska Senators will read this resolution and join us and other groups in developing and advancing the TSCA reform legislation that provides meaningful protections from, and safer solutions to, harmful chemicals; and

WHEREAS: We also call upon the Alaska State Legislature to enact state legislation during the upcoming legislative session in order to protect the health of our children

who are exposed to toxic chemicals in products marketed for children, such as nap mats, crib mattresses, toys, and other products; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. that AFN urges the Alaska State Administration to make Alaska a leader among states in innovation and education in the area of safer chemical policy reform

BE IT BE RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature support legislation that would phase out persistent bio-accumulative chemicals and/or those linked to birth defects, cancer, genetic harm, endocrine disorders, immune and neurological damage and use safer alternatives

BE IT FINNALLY RESOLVED that Alaska Senators and Representative to the U.S. Congress take leadership on chemicals policy reform and use the full power of their offices to urge Congress to transform the more than 35-year old law, the Toxic Substances Control Act, by addressing the deficiencies in the Chemical Safety Improvement Act of 2013 (S.1009).

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

SUBMITTED BY: NATIVE VILLAGE OF SAVOONGA, NATIVE VILLAGE OF GAMBELL
COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-24

TITLE: A RESOLUTION URGING THE STATE OF ALASKA TO ENHANCE ITS PREVENTION AND ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS AGAINST DANGEROUS DRUGS IN RURAL ALASKA

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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: In the recent past social problems in the Rural Communities appear to have gotten worse, as measured by a high number of suicides and other deaths related to substance abuse; and

WHEREAS: In the past few months there have been several arrests for black tar heroin and methamphetamines in rural Alaska, and anecdotal evidence suggests these arrests merely scratch the surface of a much bigger problem and that a trafficking route through Bristol Bay villages and up to the Kuskokwim region and farther north has developed by couriers who take small air taxis through the villages; and

WHEREAS: Although the State of Alaska has increased the number of VPSOs in rural Alaska and devoted some additional spending on domestic violence and sexual assault, there has been no particular focus on drugs and substance abuse, and the State Administration has relentlessly opposed tribal jurisdiction and tribal alternatives to the state justice system

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates to the 2013 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives Inc. that AFN urges the State of Alaska to step up its enforcement activities against dangerous drugs such as heroin and methamphetamines.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Governor Parnell and the responsible agencies of the State of Alaska are urged to seek creative solutions and partnerships to reduce substance abuse, such as: using the “Choose Respect” initiative to bolster community awareness; partnering with the rural air carriers and municipal governments in hub communities for better airport screening; and recognizing tribal authority and deferring appropriate cases, particularly juvenile cases, to the tribes.

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

SUBMITTED BY: BRISTAL BAY NATIVE ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS
CONVENTION ACTION:

LAND & NATURAL RESOURCES

Alaska Federation of Natives
2013 Annual Convention
Resolution 13- 25

- TITLE: SUPPORT THE CONTINUING WORK OF THE STATE OF ALASKA SUB-CABINET ON CLIMATE CHANGE
- WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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: former Governor Palin created an Administrative Order that addressed climate change impact and changes; and
- WHEREAS: the Immediate Action Workgroup (IAW) was formed from the development of the Governor’s Sub-Cabinet on Climate Change; and
- WHEREAS: a member of the Corps of Engineers and the State DCCED co-chaired the IAW; and
- WHEREAS: the IAW committee consisted of members from several organizations and agencies that were from both the State and Federal programs; and
- WHEREAS: the IAW was a very effective committee that put upper level staff of the agencies and organizations in an arena that allowed for information sharing and important dialogue; and
- WHEREAS: the IAW made recommendations to the State, the Corps of Engineers, and other agencies to fund mitigation projects that addressed the immediate threats from flooding and erosion; and
- WHEREAS: the IAW allowed members and leaders from the communities that are threatened from flooding and erosion to share their threats and dire circumstances; and
- WHEREAS: the IAW has not met for some time and has been inactive; and
- WHEREAS: the threats to life and property still exists and if anything is getting worse.

Now therefore be it resolved, that the delegates of the Alaska Federation of Natives Convention request the State of Alaska Administration to continue the work of the Governor's Sub-Cabinet on Climate Change,

Be it further resolved that the delegates of the AFN Convention support the resurrection of the IAW and urge the State to take the lead to reinstate the past workgroup.

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

SUBMITTED BY: BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-26

TITLE: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LEGISLATION TO CHANGE STATE LAW REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES TO RECONVEY LAND FOR VALID PENDING NATIVE ALLOTMENTS

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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: Valid claims are pending, many dating over 40 years, and whereby these allotments were erroneously conveyed to the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources (DNR) by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM); and

WHEREAS: To return the allotment land, the State DNR follows state law; and

WHEREAS: The state law currently allows the DNR to refuse to give back Native allotment land; and

WHEREAS: A bill has been drafted by Senator John Coghill requiring the State to quitclaim to the federal government land or an interest in land that was wrongfully or erroneously conveyed to the State by the federal government; and

WHEREAS: The recent Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the State of Alaska and BLM allows the State DNR to continue to refuse to give back the allotment land and provides an overall distraction to the original, rightful claim, ignoring the traditional and cultural use of the land which provides the basis.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates to the 2013 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives Inc., the Alaska State Legislature is urged to change the law and require that Native allotment land conveyed to the state be reconvened back to the BLM for ultimate transfer to the rightful allotment claimant

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

SUBMITTED BY: TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE
COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-27

TITLE: A RESOLUTION OPPOSING SENATE BILL 27 OF THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE:
DREDGE FILL PERMITTING

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 Army Corps of Engineers currently administers the wetland dredge and fill permitting program for Alaska, and federal law requires formal consultation with the tribes during the current wetland permitting process; and

WHEREAS: Under Senate Bill 27, the Department of Environmental Conservation will assume the responsibilities for wetland permitting for the State of Alaska; and

WEHREAS: The State of Alaska is not obligated to consult with Alaska Native tribes, and there is no language within Senate Bill 27 protecting tribal input in wetland permitting; and

WHEREAS: Rural districts in Alaska compete for State of Alaska funding for basic needs such as water and sewer projects. The availability of funds will significantly decline with the reduction of oil taxes, and Senate Bill 27 will cost the State millions. Budget cuts will affect State funded projects that our rural villages are dependent upon for basic needs.

NOW THEREFORE IT WILL BE RESOLVED that the 2013 Alaska Federation of Natives oppose Senate Bill 27: Dredge Fill Permitting.

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

SUBMITTED BY: TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE
COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS
CONVENTION ACTION:

ECONOMIC

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-28

TITLE: FULL FUNDING OF INDIRECT COSTS (CONTRACT SUPPORT COSTS)

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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, Inc. (AFN) is the recognized voice of the Alaska Native peoples; and

WHEREAS: the AFN is comprised of Alaska Native organizations, including Native corporations incorporated pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, Regional Tribal nonprofit organizations, and federally recognized Tribes; and

WHEREAS: Initially the federal government was supposed to transfer to tribal contractors those administrative functions and funding that federal agencies would have spent had they continued to manage the programs themselves.

WHEREAS: This was supposed to reduce federal administrative costs, with the associated federal savings transferred to tribes.

WHEREAS: The U.S. Supreme Court in Cherokee Nation and Ramah declared that 638 contracts must be fully paid, the same as all other federal contractors. This includes 638 contractors' lawfully established indirect costs.

WHEREAS: The federal government, not the tribal contractor, controls the determination of the indirect cost rate because it must conform with federal regulations and OMB circulars.

WHEREAS: Federal law (25 USC 450j-1(d)) says there will be no theoretical under-recovery or over-recovery, meaning that the federal government is supposed to pay all indirect costs.

"TREATMENT OF SHORTFALLS IN INDIRECT COST RECOVERIES. (1) Where a tribal organization's allowable indirect cost recoveries are below the level of indirect costs that the tribal organizations should have received for any given year pursuant to its approved indirect cost rate, and such shortfall is the result of lack of full indirect cost funding by any Federal, State, or other agency, such shortfall in recoveries shall not form the basis for any theoretical over-recovery or other adverse adjustment to any future years' indirect cost rate or amount for such

tribal organization, nor shall any agency seek to collect such shortfall from the tribal organization. (2) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to authorize the Secretary to fund less than the full amount of need for indirect costs associated with a self-determination contract." This was signed into law by President Reagan on October 5, 1988, PL 100-472.

WHEREAS: The Supreme Court (Court) held in *Salazar v. Ramah* that the federal government must pay in full each tribe's contract support costs incurred by a tribal contractor under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, 25 U.S.C. § 450, even if Congress has failed to appropriate sufficient funds to cover all of the contract support costs owed to all tribal contractors collectively.

WHEREAS: The Court held that every contract is a deal between two parties and both are supposed to perform their part of the deal. That means that if the job covered by the contract is done as it should be then that party is entitled to be paid what has been promised.

WHEREAS: Indian tribes sued the federal government because it did not pay all of the costs it had promised to cover when the two sides made their deal for the tribe to provide education and other government-like functions for their members.

WHEREAS: The Court ruled that a promise is a promise, even if the government doesn't have immediately available enough money to pay all of the contractors it had promised to pay for their services.

WHEREAS: The "Judgment Fund" is supposed to cover claims against the federal government for money owed.

.NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) work with United States Congress and the Administration to pass legislation to increase the federal budget to fully fund all indirect costs owed to Tribes and Tribal contractors for all federal contracts managed by those Tribes and Tribal organizations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that AFN request that the federal government immediately pay past claims of unpaid indirect costs or contract support costs to Tribes and Tribal Contractors out of the federal Judgment Fund; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that AFN urge NCAI invites all tribes, tribal issue organizations, and regional and intertribal organizations to join in this effort to uphold its fiduciary responsibility by paying all indirect costs and contract support costs as required by Court decisions and federal law.

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

SUBMITTED BY: COUNCIL FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-29

- TITLE: PROTECT TRIBAL PROGRAMS FROM IMPACTS OF SEQUESTRATION
- WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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, Inc. (AFN) is the recognized voice of the Alaska Native peoples; and
- WHEREAS: the AFN is comprised of Alaska Native organizations, including Native corporations incorporated pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, Regional Tribal non-profit organizations, and federally recognized Tribes; and
- WHEREAS: the Congress of the United States is attempting to seek solutions to balance the budget of the United States and is beginning the process of cutting the budget with the passage of the Budget Control Act (BCA) of 2011 that made automatic, across the board budget cuts that began in FY 2013 for a ten year period in a process known as “sequestration”; and
- WHEREAS: the sequestration cuts went into effect on March 1, 2013 because there was no Congressional action to prevent them from going into effect; and
- WHEREAS: because federal programs for needy Tribal citizens have historically been underfunded these cuts, of 5 percent or greater, have begun to have immediate and devastating impacts throughout Indian Country; and
- WHEREAS: the federal government has a unique political fiduciary responsibility to Tribal nations as domestic dependent nations, a relationship recognized in the United States Constitution, Supreme Court rulings, and through the ratification of numerous federal laws; and
- WHEREAS: because of their status as domestic dependent nations the federal government has a fiduciary trust obligation to tribal nations and this obligation is not discretionary; and

WHEREAS: Tribes have effectively used federal funding received from most Departments and agencies, especially the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), to improve the economic, social and education circumstances for Native American and Alaska Native people as well as to provide a “safety-net” of support to families victimized by high unemployment rates; and

WHEREAS: the President has reversed the impact of sequestration in non-BIA agencies in the Department of the Interior (DOI) by increasing non-BIA agency funding by greater than 5% but has not acted to avoid the disastrous and devastating cuts to funding for the trust responsibility to Indian Country; and

WHEREAS: the abrupt and arbitrary nature of the across-the-board cuts as a result of sequestration are having damaging effects on the progress made in addressing the serious problems facing Indian Country; and

WHEREAS: it is flawed public policy to drastically reduce funding for tribal programs that have a track record of effectively addressing the acute, high-priority needs of extremely vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS: further cuts planned for FY 2014 will add misery to the lives of hundreds of thousands of tribal citizens throughout Indian Country who are among the most vulnerable citizens within the United States and who are among the poorest, including single parents, and will not substantially reduce the deficit.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) work with United States Congress and the Administration to pass legislation to amend the FY 2014 federal budget to increase Bureau of Indian Affairs funding by at least 5.11%, commensurate with other agencies in the Department of the Interior

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that AFN request that federal legislation be passed to immediately exempt all tribal programs from the current sequestration and any future sequestration of appropriations

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that AFN invites all tribes, tribal issue organizations, and regional and intertribal organizations to join in this effort to reverse the negative effects of sequestration on Tribal programs

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that AFN urge the NCAI Federal Budget Taskforce to continue to develop and implement strategies to ensure trust and treaty obligations are protected in the federal budget and appropriations process and work to address sequestration's impacts in Indian Country.

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

SUBMITTED BY: COUNCIL FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: DO PASS

CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-30

- TITLE: ENERGY AFFORDABILITY THROUGH WEATHERIZATION AND RENEWABLE SYSTEMS
- WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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: Affordable and readily available energy is crucial for the future survival of our villages. Most villages are off the grid, operating in micro-grids where distribution generation provides for local needs; and
- WHEREAS: Energy costs in rural Alaska can be as high \$1/kWh and heating oil can cost as much as \$7/gallon. A study by University of Alaska, Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER) states rural households—those in the lowest income bracket—spend 47% of their entire income on home energy; and
- WHEREAS: Since the year 2000, the price of oil in many villages has increased by more than 400%, putting strain not just on personal budgets but on the budgets of key employers in a community; and
- WHEREAS: School districts, cities and businesses are responding to increased heat and electric bills by cutting back on staff, reducing programs and services and increasing the cost of goods; and
- WHEREAS: State and Federal funding for weatherization and energy efficiency programs may be diminishing in the future with proposed budget cuts; and
- WHEREAS: The need for weatherization programs and heating system change-outs is far outstripping the funding supply of the existing programs; and
- WHEREAS: Between the years 2000 to 2010 many community populations have diminished, in some cases by 30%, due to rising costs in energy

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates to the 2013 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives Inc., urges the Alaska Congressional Delegation, the Alaska State Legislature, and government officials to:

1. Support programs and funding for weatherization throughout the State of Alaska; and
2. Invest in heating systems and pilot projects that use local sources such as biomass to reduce imported diesel and support cost savings; and
3. Help educate community leaders and residents on planning, financing, and engineering efficient energy systems, and ensure operators and maintenance are available for the duration of systems; and
4. Enact legislation for long-term energy relief in rural Alaska and as well as along the railbelt.

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

SUBMITTED BY: TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE

COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS

CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-31

TITLE: ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE FIXED AND MOBILE BROADBAND

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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: Accessible and affordable fixed and mobile broadband is a significant driver of economic development with the potential for positive impact to nearly every challenge facing Alaska Tribes; and

WHEREAS: Access to health care, education and social services increasingly relies on dependable broadband; and

WHEREAS: Rural Alaska communities have some of the poorest broadband penetration rates in the nation and rely on relatively expensive, low-bandwidth access; and

WHEREAS: Unique factors such as the Interior Alaska climate, terrain and remoteness, the cost to provide mobile and fixed broadband services per household are cost prohibitive or at a minimum, require substantial subsidization by state and federal funding programs; and

WHEREAS: marginal availability continues to widen the 'digital divide' across Interior Alaska, resulting in fewer modern economic development opportunities, prolonged unemployment rates, socioeconomic instability, and a gradual out-migration and decline of Interior Alaska village-based populations; and

WHEREAS: In November 2011, the Federal Communications Commission reformed the Universal Service Fund (USF) for high-cost rural areas by adopting new rules targeted toward improving efficiency of the program and implementing policies to incentivize and stimulate build-out and/or preserve rural telecommunications infrastructure; and

WHEREAS: High Cost Loop System (HCLS) reforms, adopted in April 2012, could ultimately lead to the degradation or elimination of services in those rural Alaska communities; and

WHEREAS: The 2011 FCC Transformation Order requires telecommunications providers that received USF support to meaningfully engage with the tribal governments to ensure open dialogue and communication.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates to the 2013 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives, that AFN recommends that the intent of the Universal Service Fund should be preserved and new reforms presented under the National Broadband Plan and subsequent Universal Services and Intercarrier Compensation Transformation Orders will ultimately drive advanced telecommunications investment and services into rural Interior Alaska.

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

SUBMITTED BY: TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE

COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS

CONVENTION ACTION:

Other

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-32

TITLE: RECOGNITION OF THE ONE FOOT HIGH KICK INTO THE WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 International Olympic Committee is an Internationally Recognized Corporation based in Lausanne, Switzerland, and,

WHEREAS: The International Olympic Committee organizes the Olympic Games and the Youth Olympic Games, and,

WHEREAS: The Olympic Games include a field of 58 sports in the Summer and Winter Olympics, and,

WHEREAS: Kayaking is an indigenous sport in which participants compete in the traditional indigenous waterborne activity, and,

WHEREAS: The Inuit Inukshuk was the official 2010 Winter Olympics logo at Vancouver, Canada, and,

WHEREAS: There are no indigenous sports held in the Olympics that have been introduced by the Northern Indigenous People of the world, and,

WHEREAS: The One Foot High Kick is traditionally practiced in Northern Regions of Canada, Greenland, Russia, and the United States of America.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2013 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc., support that the One Foot High Kick as a sport be included into the Winter Olympic Games by the International Olympic Committee, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the One Foot High Kick be inducted into the permanent collection of sports in the Winter Olympic Games to be held every four years.

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

SUBMITTED BY: BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 AFN CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-33

- TITLE: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PROTECTION OF SLED DOG MUSHING IN ALASKA AND TO AFFIRM ALASKA AS A "RIGHT TO MUSH" STATE AND TO PROTECT THE CUSTOMARY AND TRADITIONAL ACTIVITY OF SLED DOG MUSHING FOR THE SPIRITUAL, MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH OF ALASKANS
- WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 Federation of Natives (AFN) fully supports all of its members in all aspects of their self-determination, health and well-being, and
- WHEREAS: The State of Alaska has an extensive system of accountability, approved by The federal government, for schools and school districts; and
- WHEREAS: The State sport of Alaska is mushing; it is embraced by Native and non-Native persons alike, who continue to live with dogs, travel by dog team and perpetuate the culture and tradition of dog mushing that has been exercised for thousands of years in Alaska by Native Alaskans; and
- WHEREAS: Alaska is historically home to sled dogs and dog mushers. It is an important thread in the fabric of Alaskan life, an important aspect of the spiritual wellbeing and cultural identity; and
- WHEREAS: Sled Dog mushing is more than a sport, it is a way of life that has roots in ancient times when man first bonded with animals. This relationship helped Native Alaskans to live, hunt, thrive, and populate this state prior to the arrival of mechanized means of transportation; and
- WHEREAS: Mushing is under attack in Alaska. Sled dog mushers around the state are experiencing harassment through frivolous lawsuits, the hampering of kennel operations, sled dog training runs and obstruction of trails; and
- WHEREAS: Mushers all over the state are being bullied, intentionally disturbed and bothered by individuals who have no respect for the art of dog mushing, dog husbandry and the traditional Alaskan way of life; and

WHEREAS: Dog mushers contribute to the image of Alaska as the last frontier state; they contribute to state and local economies by providing popular tourist attractions; they contribute to the Alaskan sports scene by holding sled dog races that attract millions of fans worldwide and provide excitement and purpose locally; they contribute to the pride, spiritual and physical wellbeing and cultural identity of fans and mushers alike, whether be it through racing or recreationally mushing.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Delegates of the 2013 Alaska Federation of Natives support the creation of the Code of the North, which establishes Alaska as a “Right to Mush” state. The Code of the North entails that people who chose to live in Alaska should embrace the fact that sled dog mushing is still alive and practiced. The Code of the North is based on the honor that sled dog mushing brings, and the grit and tenacity learned from mushing miles through open wild country in harsh weather conditions. Mushers –provided that they honorably maintain their kennel and humanely treat the dogs - need the support of Alaskans so that they are able to perpetuate the tradition and culture of sled dog keeping in Alaska for future generations.

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

SUBMITTED BY: ASSOCIATION OF VILLAGE COUNCIL PRESIDENTS
COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 AFN CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-34

- TITLE: REQUESTING THE STATE OF ALASKA INCREASE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR RURAL RESIDENTS TO OBTAIN AN INITIAL STATE OF ALASKA IDENTIFICATION CARD
- WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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, through the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), provides the only service to obtain a State of Alaska Identification Card; and
- WHEREAS: Rural residents may renew State of Alaska identification cards through the State DMV web site, however the initial identification card must be obtained within a DMV office; and
- WHEREAS: A State of Alaska Identification Card may be used as a primary form of identification in such instances as travel, banking and employment purposes; and
- WHEREAS: The State of Alaska has 34 DMV offices throughout Alaska; and
- WHEREAS: Rural residents may not have the opportunity to travel to hub communities where DMV offices may be located to obtain an Identification Card due to the high cost of travel; and
- WHEREAS: The State of Alaska should provide its rural residents the same opportunity to obtain State services otherwise provided within its hub communities; and
- WHEREAS: The State of Alaska should explore creative solutions to address this issue, such as utilizing resources within a rural community that may already exist to aid in providing this service.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates to the 2013 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc., that we request that the State of Alaska consider alternative solutions to increasing Identification Card services to village residents.

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

SUBMITTED BY: COUNCIL FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: DO PASS
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-35

TITLE: SUPPORTING THE FAIRBANKS FOUR

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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: in 1997 four young boys; Marvin Roberts, Eugene Vent, Kevin Pease and George Frese, of Fairbanks, Alaska; were arrested and subsequently convicted of the murder of John Hartman, himself a young boy; and

WHEREAS: Roberts, Vent and Frese are Alaska Natives of the Tanana Chiefs Conference Region and Pease is American Indian; and

WHEREAS: Roberts, Vent, Pease and Frese have continually and consistently maintained and asserted their innocence of the crimes for which they were convicted, and

WHEREAS: the tribes of the Tanana Chiefs Conference Region have long challenged their convictions as wrongful and based on insufficient, improper and fabricated evidence, and false and coerced confessions; and

WHEREAS: the Full Board of Directors of Tanana Chiefs, representing 42 tribes and tribal entities with more than 14,000 tribal members, has annually adopted since 1999 resolutions demanding the review of this case and calling for the exoneration of the four men; and

WHEREAS: since 2008 TCC has supported the Alaska Innocence Project in their efforts to fight this wrongful conviction and free the young men now known as the Fairbanks Four; and

WHEREAS: through diligent and tireless efforts, the Alaska Innocence Project was able to file on September 25, 2013, Applications for Post-Conviction Relief for Roberts, Pease and Frese, which contain the handwritten confession of William Holmes,

describing what actually happened to John Hartman and exonerating Roberts, Vent, Pease, and Frese; and

WHEREAS: the Applications for Post-Conviction Relief also contain other information disproving other trial testimony and so-called evidence used to convict the Fairbanks Four; and

WHEREAS: the attorney for Vent also filed an Application for Post-Conviction Relief based on said confession and review; and

WHEREAS: TCC holds that the wrongful convictions affect the entire statewide Native and Non-Native Communities, quoting and upholding Dr. Martin Luther King's assertion that "Justice denied anywhere is justice denied everywhere".

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Federation Native membership and Board of Directors express their support for the efforts to re-examine this case and right the wrongful conviction of four innocent men. This support takes the form of continuing to demand that the State of Alaska diligently and timely address the issues raised in the current Post-Conviction Applications and to re-examine the case to see that justice is done.

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

SUBMITTED BY: TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE

COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS

CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-36

TITLE: INCREASE ALASKA NATIVE VOTER TURN OUT

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 recognizes that a strong grassroots effort is needed; and encourages all tribes, regional and village corporations, health consortiums, and inter-tribal organizations to have a Native Vote coordinator. There is a need to get the community mobilized early, starting with registration, as Alaska Natives are unregistered at higher rates than other communities; and

WHEREAS: There has been an effort, by the State's election officials to suppress the Alaska Native vote by not providing ballots in Native languages when necessary. The indifference by State election officials to ignore their responsibilities to the Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments to the US Constitution has contributed to depressed voter participation in the neglected Native communities, including some with turnout 20 to 30 percent lower than turnout in non-Native communities; and

WHEREAS: If Alaska Natives fail to recruit new eligible voters, the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to strike down parts of the 1965 Voting Rights Act will have wide impacts for Alaska Natives who have historically been discriminated against at the polls. The Voting Rights Act previously protected Alaska Natives from being gerrymandered out of the Alaska Legislature by political Redistricting Boards and without the Voting Rights Act Alaska Natives do not have that protection; and

WHEREAS: Voting rights are under attack in this country as state legislatures nationwide pass voter suppression laws under the pretext of preventing voter fraud and safeguarding election integrity. These voter suppression laws take many forms, and collectively lead to significant burdens for eligible voters trying to exercise their most fundamental constitutional right. In Alaska, House Bill 3 seeks to require Voting ID when the Alaska Legislature is aware there is a large population

of rural Alaska that does not have government issue ID. Also in Alaska, House Bill 104 seeks to move the primary election date to the second week of August when the Alaska Legislature is aware there is a large population of rural Alaska that will be subsistence hunting and fishing; and

WHEREAS: In order to seek movement from our elected officials on the issues that significantly impact Alaska Natives including: hunting and fishing rights, criminal justice, education, public safety, and health care, Alaska Natives must have higher voter turn-outs; and

WHEREAS: Each Alaska Native rural village and urban center should have multiple voter registrars empowered to register voters and voter awareness education. A focus should be on the 18-35 year old age group which is significantly under-represented through creative media and educational campaigns.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT each Alaska Native region create a voter registration and Get Out the Native Vote plan to increase Alaska Native voter turn-out in the 2014 election

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that AFN oppose HB 3 and HB 104.

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

SUBMITTED BY: TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE

COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS

CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-37

- TITLE:** A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR ALASKA LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION
- WHEREAS:** The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 Legal Services Corporation's (ALSC's) twenty-four lawyers in eleven offices around the state serve a population of over 168,000 Alaskans living below 200% of the poverty threshold, including more than 40,000 Alaska Natives; and
- WHEREAS:** Alaskans potentially eligible for ALSC's services face approximately 65,000 legal problems each year and ALSC's current resources only stretch far enough to help about 6,300 people each year; and
- WHEREAS:** Each year ALSC must turn away more than 600 qualified individuals with critical legal needs due to its limited resources; 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:** Although the May 2000 Alaska Supreme Court Access to Civil Justice Task Force Report recommended that ALSC be funded at \$5 million annually, ALSC's actual funding is far less than that at only \$3.6 million; and
- WHEREAS:** Several regional Native nonprofits, including Bristol Bay Native Association, Association of Village Council Presidents and Maniilaq Association have made significant financial and in-kind contributions over the years to support local ALSC offices in the communities of Bethel, Dillingham, and Kotzebue; and others, including the CIRI, Bering Straits Native Corporation, Central Council of Tlingit-Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, the Tanana Chiefs Conference, the Inupiaq Community of the Arctic Slope, and the Nome Eskimo Community have otherwise provided support for ALSC; and
- WHEREAS:** The State of Alaska did make an appropriation to ALSC for FY 2013, approved by

Governor Parnell, in the amount of \$550,000, but this amount is far less than 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: Every additional \$100,000 of funding enables ALSC to directly benefit 182 more people; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates to the 2013 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc., that AFN urges Governor Parnell to retain and increase the appropriation for ALSC in his proposed FY 2014 budget, and urges the Alaska Legislature to appropriate that funding, 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.

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

SUBMITTED BY: BRISTOL BAY NATIVE ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-38

- TITLE: AMERICAN INDIAN VETERANS MEMORIAL INITIATIVE
- WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska. Its membership includes 178 villages (both federally-recognized tribes and village corporations), 13 regional Native corporations and 12 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and run federal and state programs. The mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and
- WHEREAS: American Indian/ Alaska Native and Native Hawaiians serve at the highest per capita rate in the Armed Forces compared to any group of Americans, and have served with valor in all the Nation's wars from the Revolutionary War through the present; and
- WHEREAS: young Alaska Native men and women made their commitment to serve in the Armed Forces of the United States of America; and
- WHEREAS: an overwhelming majority of Alaska Native men served in the Vietnam War; and
- WHEREAS: there is a National Monument commonly referred to as the "Vietnam Veterans Memorial" recognizing those Veterans who served both living and dead;
- WHEREAS: a part of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial are the figures called "The Three Servicemen"; and
- WHEREAS: "The Three Servicemen" are wearing uniforms and carry equipment of war, one serviceman has the appearance of a Caucasian, the other African-American and the third resembles a Hispanic soldier; and

WHEREAS: it is NOT practicable to add another soldier to an existing Iconic Memorial as “The Three Servicemen”; and

WHEREAS: a founder of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Jan Scruggs, Vietnam Veteran, wanted the memorial to acknowledge and recognize the service and sacrifice of ALL who served in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS: an opportunity exists for the Alaska Federation of Natives to be at the forefront of an “INITIATIVE” to encourage Indian Tribes, Indian Veteran Organizations, and Non-Indian Veteran Organizations; and

WHEREAS: this Initiative shall be charged with the responsibility to go into Indian Country to communicate with Local, Regional, and National Indian and Non-Indian groups necessary to gather support in an effort to obtain Congressional authorization to erect/build a Statue at the entrance of the Education Center of the Vietnam Wall; and

WHEREAS: the Statue will recognize the contributions and sacrifices of All American Indian/Alaskan Native and Native Hawaiian Soldiers in All Wars; and

WHEREAS: the Alaska Federation of Natives has been otherwise fully advised.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Federation of Natives hereby recognize and approves the “American Indian Veterans Memorial Initiative”.

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

SUBMITTED BY: BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ALASKA FEDERATION OF DIRECTORS

COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS

CONVENTION ACTION:

ANSCA/TRIBAL

Alaska Federation of Natives
2013 Annual Convention
Resolution 13-39

TITLE: AUTHORIZING STATEWIDE HEARINGS ON SUBSISTENCE

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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: Subsistence is the foundation of Alaska Native cultures and the mainstay of food security in Native villages; and

WHEREAS: The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (“ANCSA”) extinguished aboriginal hunting and fishing rights because Congress expected the State of Alaska and the Secretary of the Interior “to take any action necessary to protect the subsistence needs of Alaska Natives.”; and

WHEREAS: Neither the State nor the Secretary acted to protect the subsistence needs of Alaska Natives, so Congress enacted the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (“ANILCA”) with a subsistence preference for rural residents; and

WHEREAS: The State Supreme Court found the rural preference violated the Alaska Constitution’s equal access clause, so now subsistence in Alaska is managed by the federal government on federal land, and by the state government on state and private land resulting in a patchwork of regulations across the state; and

WHEREAS: Large areas of the state have been classified as “non-subsistence use areas,” where subsistence users receive no priority and “all Alaskans” have been declared eligible for the subsistence priority on all remaining state and private lands; and

WHEREAS: Subsistence harvests have been marginalized, both by competing users of fish and game and by ineffective and irreconcilable federal and state management regimes; and

WHEREAS: Alaska Federation of Natives would like to gather and clarify changes we would like to see made in subsistence laws, regulations and management so that we can advocate for those changes with the state and federal governments.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Federation of Natives will conduct hearings around the state to gather issues and suggested changes to subsistence laws, regulations and management

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

SUBMITTED BY: ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES BOARD OF DIRECTORS
COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS
CONVENTION ACTION:

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.
2013 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 13-40

- TITLE: PROMOTING TRIBALLY-OPERATED SCHOOLS AND CULTURALLY-APPROPRIATE EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALASKA NATIVE YOUTH BY RE-ESTABLISHING BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION (BIE) FUNDING IN ALASKA
- WHEREAS: The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and 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 Native tribes and communities have strong interests in improving the education for Alaska Native Youth; and
- WHEREAS: The United States has recognized the expression of Alaska Natives for self-determination in legislation, such as Public Law 93-638, assuring the maximum Alaska Native and Indian participation in the direction of educational services to render those services more responsive to the needs and desires of those communities; and
- WHEREAS: The United States has declared its commitment to the maintenance of the federal government's unique and continuing trust responsibility to Indian tribes through the establishment of the Indian Self-Determination Policy and the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act; and
- WHEREAS: Tribally-operated schools in the State of Alaska have sought to enter into Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act agreements with the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) to carry out educational programs that meet the needs and desires of their tribal communities; and
- WHEREAS: The Executive and Legislative Branches of the United States Government have proposed, enacted and implemented appropriations legislation preventing any BIE funding to be used for tribal schools in the State of Alaska specifically in the appropriations language which is proposed to be continued under the FY 2014 budget proposal and this places limitations on which schools are eligible for BIE funds to prevent BIE funding from being used for tribal schools in Alaska. The language states:

“Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds available to the Bureau [of Indian Education], other than the amounts provided herein for assistance to public schools under 25 U.S.C. 452 et seq. [Johnson O'Malley], shall be available to support the operation of any elementary or secondary school in the State of Alaska.”

(FY14 Indian Affairs Budget Justification, pages IA-PROV-1 and IA-PROV-2)

WHEREAS: This discriminatory practice of denying Alaska Natives the opportunity to carry out tribally-directed education programs that are authorized in the Lower 48 States is contrary to the trust responsibility of the United States to all its indigenous peoples.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Federation of Natives urges the Obama Administration with the United States Congress to take action to ensure that BIE Program Funding is made available to Alaska Native tribes and tribal organizations on the same terms it is made available in the rest of the United States.

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

SUBMITTED BY: NATIVE VILLAGE OF KOTZEBUE

COMMITTEE ACTION: DO PASS

CONVENTION ACTION: