

ANNUAL CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS POLICY

Introduction

The Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. (AFN) mission is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community. The Resolutions Policy will be used to promote AFN's goals to:

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

Committee Organization

A. The AFN Board of Directors adopted these guidelines to assist the AFN Resolutions Committee in meeting their responsibility for accepting, evaluating and making recommendations in the consideration of resolutions.

B. AFN Resolutions Committee is a standing committee composed of seven (7) people appointed by the co-chairmen of the AFN Board of Directors.

C. The Chairman of the Committee and/or AFN's staff assigned to the Committee shall give members appointed to the Resolutions Committee an orientation to the resolutions process. Included in the orientation packet shall be:

- 1) A copy of the AFN Bylaws;
- 2) A copy of Resolutions Policy & Procedures;
- 3) A copy of the Annual Notification for submission of resolutions; and
- 4) A copy of the resolutions passed by AFN's previous year Annual Convention.

D. The Elders/Youth Conference shall form a resolutions committee. The Elders/Youth Conference shall establish guidelines for their resolutions committee along the same lines as the AFN Board of Directors Resolutions Committee. The Elder/Youth Resolutions Committee may request a member of the AFN Board of Directors Resolutions Committee to serve on the Elders/Youth Resolutions Committee.

Criteria for Submitting Resolutions

A. The Resolutions Committee will entertain resolutions submitted by any recognized Alaska Native delegate to the Annual Convention, Alaska Native Group, or Member AFN organizations.

B. The Resolutions Committee will consider only resolutions that address issues of statewide or broader significance.

C. Resolutions submitted must address only one issue with action on resolution to be stated positively.

D. Resolutions requesting funding may be referred to the AFN Board of Directors or an appropriate regional or local organization.

E. The Resolutions Committee may refer to AFN Board of Directors or an appropriate member organization all resolutions that request legal action.

F. The Resolutions Committee will refer to the AFN Board of Directors all resolutions that are determined to be a divisive issue between member organizations.

G. The Resolutions Committee shall refer all resolutions of endorsements, commendations, or recognition to the AFN Board of Directors.

Resolution Procedures + Follow-Up

A. When a resolution does not follow the established format, it will be referred back to the sponsor or be rewritten.

B. Duplicate resolutions may be consolidated. All sponsors of duplicates will be noted on final resolutions.

C. The Resolutions Committee will consider only resolutions that are received by the deadline of September 4, 2015.

D. Resolutions should be one issue per resolution with limited negative views.

E. Resolutions making misstatements on issues will be returned to their sponsor(s) with draft language for the considerations of the sponsor(s) or be modified.

F. The AFN President or Designee, which may include the Chairperson of the Resolutions Committee, shall make a summary report of actions that occurred on the resolutions adopted at the prior Annual Convention.

G. An authorized member delegate may present a resolution(s) to the Annual Convention by “Suspension of Rules” procedure set out in the “Robert Rules of Order” provided, and that copies were handed out the day before the resolutions are to be acted on.

H. The Resolutions Committee shall categorize all resolutions received into the following categories: AFN Board Resolutions; Special Recognition; Subsistence; Health, Safety and Welfare; Cultural; Land & Natural Resources; Education; Economics; ANCSA/Tribal; Elder/Youth; and Other.

I. Resolutions presented to the Annual Convention and passed by the delegation shall be processed by the Resolutions Committee into a final set of resolutions for presentation to the AFN Board of Directors.

Presentation of Resolutions at the Annual Convention

A. The Chairperson of the Resolutions Committee, or designee, shall preside over the presentation of resolutions to the membership at each Annual Convention. The Chairperson will explain the resolution policy and process, the notice and instructions for submitting resolutions, the criteria for submitting resolutions, and the technical management of the resolutions.

B. The Committee Member will read the number, title of resolution, and the recommendation of the Committee, and that he/she will make the motion to accept the recommendation of the Committee. A Committee Member will second the motion.

1) Amendments of three words or less and grammatical amendments may be accepted by unanimous consent by the Annual Convention;

2) Amendments of greater length must be in writing and brought to the Committee and may be tabled to the end of the session;

3) Suspension of rules according to “Robert Rules of Order” must have a vote or unanimous consent of the Annual Convention. Newly submitted resolutions must be in writing and brought to the Committee.