



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES  
2016 ANNUAL CONVENTION  
RESOLUTION 16-10

**TITLE:** A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE EXPANDED AND PERMANENT PRESENCE OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD WITHIN ITS JURISDICTION IN ALASKA

**WHEREAS:** The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 151 federally recognized tribes, 150 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 12 regional non-profit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and

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

**WHEREAS:** The mission of the U.S. Coast Guard is to protect the public, the environment, and U.S. economic interests ensuring maritime safety, security, and stewardship; and

**WHEREAS:** Maritime activity in the Bering Strait and the Arctic Ocean is increasing with negative impact on marine mammals; and

**WHEREAS:** Increasing maritime activity in the Bering Straits and Arctic Ocean increases potential conflicts between subsistence and commercial maritime activity and increased search and rescue demands across larger distances in the State; and

**WHEREAS:** The U.S. Coast Guard currently has limited resources to cover the coast of Alaska; and

**WHEREAS:** Increased maritime activity and receding sea ice will require increased U.S. Coast Guard resources to ensure maritime safety, security, and stewardship for all of Alaska; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Delegates of the 2016 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives that AFN supports the expansion of enforcement by the U.S. Coast Guard across all of Alaska to ensure the protection of subsistence and commercial resources and maritime activity.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that as soon as the ice conditions allow, the US Coast Guard deploy to the Arctic to be available to address issues arising from Climate Change including but not limited to search and rescue operations.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that pursuant to Executive Order 13175, the Coast Guard is called upon to meaningfully consult with Tribes and Alaska Native Corporations and to meaningfully engage with other stakeholders in all aspects of the expansion of its presence across 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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be the policy of AFN until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.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: NANA REGIONAL CORPORATION  
COMMITTEE ACTION: PASS  
CONVENTION ACTION: AMEND AND PASS



Julie Kitka

President