

**RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF
THE THREE AFFILIATED TRIBES
OF THE FORT BERTHOLD RESERVATION**

- WHEREAS,** This Nation, having accepted the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, and the authority under said Act; and
- WHEREAS,** The Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes generally authorizes and empowers the Tribal Business Council to engage in activities on behalf of and in the best interest of the welfare and benefit of the Tribe and the enrolled members thereof; and
- WHEREAS,** The Washington State Republican Party, on June 17, 2000, at its State Convention, passed a resolution calling for the termination of American Indian tribal governments; and
- WHEREAS,** The proponents of the resolution calling for termination advocate the use of American military force against Indian tribes should they fight the effort to terminate tribal governments, which is evidence of maliciousness on behalf of the proponents; and
- WHEREAS,** The proponents of the resolution claim that they do not recognize Indian tribes as sovereign nations; and
- WHEREAS,** The federal government began signing treaties with Indian tribes in 1787, dealing with them as independent and recognizing their sovereign status; and
- WHEREAS,** The Supreme Court has held that tribes retain *inherent* tribal sovereignty, which means that tribes are the source of their own power; and
- WHEREAS,** President Nixon in 1970 declared previous attempts at termination a failure, calling upon Congress to repudiate the policy, and since then, Congress has passed several measures that favor tribal self-development including the Indian Financing Act of 1974, the Indian Self-Determination and Assistance Act of 1975, and the Indian Tribal Government Tax Status Act of 1982; and
- WHEREAS,** In 1988, Congress declared the nation's commitment to the "development of strong and stable tribal governments," and in 1994, President Clinton

instructed each agency of the federal government to operate “within a government to government relationship” with federally recognized tribes; and,

WHEREAS, The proponents of the resolution call for the use of military force against a race of people merely exercising established rights to self-governance, in a time of peace; and

WHEREAS, Members of Indian Tribes across the United States serve in the U.S. Military today, and other tribal members, including members of the Three Affiliated Tribes, have served and died in defense of the United States and its citizens, making the call for military action against tribes particularly immoral;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes on this day hereby formally denounces the Resolution passed by the Washington State Republican Party calling for termination of Indian tribal governments as the racist, reprehensible, misguided, uninformed, and uneducated product of racist, spiteful, unthinking, inconsiderate, and uninformed minds, contrary to the federal government’s commitment to tribal sovereignty, and does hereby reaffirm a commitment to the preservation and protection of tribal sovereignty and tribal self-government for America’s Indian tribes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tribal Business Council requests that all Indian tribes, elected leaders, Democratic and Republican Party leadership, and citizens join in condemnation of the Washington State Republican Party Resolution calling for termination of tribal governments; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Tribal Business Council hereby demands an apology from the Washington State Republican Party and rescission of its Resolution calling for termination of tribal governments.

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, hereby certify that the Tribal Business Council is composed of seven (7) members, of whom five (5) constitute a quorum, 7 were present at a Regular Meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the day of July, 2000; that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by the affirmative vote of 7 Members, 0 Members opposed, 13th

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Members abstained, Members not voting, and that said Resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Dated this 13th day of July, 2000.

Daylon Spotted Bear
Secretary, Tribal Business Council

ATTEST:

Joseph Appl
Chairman, Tribal Business Council