

**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 interest of the welfare and benefit of the Tribes and of the enrolled members thereof; and
- WHEREAS,** The firm of Santee Sioux Tribe are part of the larger Great Sioux Nation of Lakota, Dakota and Nakota speakers, and have a small reservation located in northeast Nebraska and are a member Tribe in the Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association; and
- WHEREAS,** The Santee Sioux have utilized their trust land for economic development best suited to their needs at present, and have constructed and are operating a small casino on their trust land that employs many Tribal members and provides some limited income to the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS,** The State of Nebraska has refused to negotiate in good faith with the Santee Sioux to obtain a valid compact under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act and as a result of the lack of an approved Tribal-state gaming compact, the National Indian Gaming Commission has attempted to shut down the Santee Sioux's small casino by taking action in Federal court, which has resulted in massive fines being levied against the Tribe because of the operation of their casino; and
- WHEREAS,** In addition to the NIGC's Federal court action, the U.S. Attorney for the state of Nebraska has within the past two months been able to seize the Federal funds of the Tribe, preventing the Tribe from providing vital social services to its members and to which its members are entitled, regardless of whether or not their casino is operating; and
- WHEREAS,** The Santee Sioux Tribe has also submitted a proposed Compact to the Secretary of the Interior for approval by the Secretary under alternative approval procedures as proposed by the Secretary in the Federal Register; and
- WHEREAS,** The Santee Sioux are finally in serious negotiation with the State of Nebraska to obtain a valid compact to allow their small casino to continue to operate, and yet the U.S. Attorney continues to hold the Federal funds upon which the Tribe depends, acting to try to disrupt the Tribe and hold its members hostage to the demands of the U.S. Attorney in violation of the sovereign rights of the Santee Sioux Tribe and its members; and

WHEREAS, In similar situations in New Mexico, Arizona and California the U.S. Attorneys in those states did not attempt to hold hostage Tribes who did not yet have a compact with the state in which their reservations were located and allowed those Tribes to conduct gaming without the interference of the U.S. Attorney's office; and

WHEREAS, The Three Affiliated Tribes express their gratitude to the Santee Sioux Tribe for giving our Tribes the Tail Feather Ceremony and the sixteen songs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Three Affiliated Tribes, acting through its Tribal Business Council, hereby supports the efforts of Santee Sioux to obtain all the Federal funds that have been seized to date, and calls upon the U.S. Attorney and the acting Attorney General of the United States to take action to restore all Federal funds to the Santee Sioux which have been subject to seizure to allow vital services to once again be provided to the Santee Sioux tribal members; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the U.S. Attorney in Nebraska is urged to treat the Santee Sioux Tribe fairly and similarly to other Tribes who have and who are in good faith negotiations to obtain a Tribal-state gaming compact with the State in which they are located; and

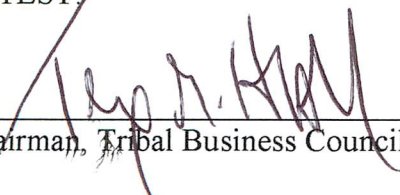
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Three Affiliated Tribes hereby appropriates \$5,000 to be used to assist the Santee Sioux Tribe to meet its obligations, such sums to come from the General Funds of the Tribe, and which appropriation is intended to be an interest-free loan to be repaid to the Three Affiliated Tribes as income become available.

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 7 members of whom 5 constitute a quorum, 7 were present at a Regular Meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 23rd day of January, 2001; that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at such Meeting by the affirmative vote of 7 members, 0 members opposed, 0 members abstained, 0 members not voting, and that said Resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Dated this 23rd day of January, 2001.

ATTEST:



Chairman, Tribal Business Council



Secretary, Tribal Business Council