

**RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF
THE THREE AFFILIATED TRIBES OF THE
FORT BERTHOLD INDIAN 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,** Article VI, Section 5 (j), of the Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes specifically authorizes and empowers the Tribal Business Council to protect and preserve the property, wildlife and natural resources of the Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** The Three Affiliated Tribes, Tribal Council recognizes and reveres wild animals as essential components of the earth community, and is committed to their preservation and enhancement; and
- WHEREAS,** Indian lands throughout the United States are the home of fish and wildlife populations whose perpetuation is critically important to both Indian and non-Indian people, including populations of certain species that are threatened or endangered; and
- WHEREAS,** Programs to preserve and enhance fish and wildlife on Indian reservations are as vital to the national interest as are those on state and federal lands, and require equivalent funding; and
- WHEREAS,** The Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson Acts, administered by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, provide funds to states and territories for such programs, but exclude tribes as recipients, although tribal members pay the same PR-DJ taxes on purchase of hunting and fishing equipment as do non-Indian purchasers; and
- WHEREAS,** The inequitable distribution of PR-DJ funds, whereby tribes share the cost of resource preservation but not the benefits, is unjust and impractical; contrary to democratic principals; violates Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; and jeopardizes the future of fish and wildlife on great areas of reservation land -- land used not only by our nation's hundreds of tribes but also by non-Indian hunters and fishermen, who will likewise lose if the resource declines or disappears; and
- WHEREAS,** When tribes ask the Fish and Wildlife Service for participation in programs funded by Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson, the Act's restrictive language is given as the reason for refusal; and
- NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** That the Three Affiliated Tribes, Tribal Business Council urge their Congressman to draft a bill addressing the problem of Pittman-Robertson/Dingell-Johnson inequities as related to the tenets of the United States Constitution, and to enact legislation that will abolish those

inequities so that all tribes and many fellow Americans can look forward, on Indian lands as elsewhere, to the benefits and pleasures that only healthy, enduring populations of wild creatures can provide.

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 11 members of whom 7 constitutes a quorum, 11 were present at a SPECIAL Meeting, thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 24 day of APRIL 1986; that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by the affirmative vote of 11 members, 0 members opposed, 0 members abstained, 0 members not voting, and that said Resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Chairman (voting) ~~(not voting)~~.
Dated this 24 day of APRIL, 1986.

[Signature]
Secretary, Tribal Business Council

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Chairman, Tribal Business Council