

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,** Article VI, Section 3(a) of the Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes specifically authorizes and empowers the Tribal Business Council to present any claims or demands of the Tribes and to assist members of the Tribes in presenting their claims or grievances before any court or agency of government; and
- WHEREAS,** Article VI, Section 5(d) of the Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes specifically authorizes and empowers the Tribal Business Council to negotiate with federal, state, and local governments on behalf of the Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** Article VI, Section 5(j) of the Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes specifically authorizes and empowers the Tribal Business Council to cultivate and preserve native arts, crafts, cultures, ceremonies, and traditions; and
- WHEREAS,** The Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation of North Dakota (to-wit: the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Tribes) recognize the common ancestry of the Arikara people with the Pawnee and Wichita people, all being descendant from what scholars have termed the Caddoan stock or Caddoan people of the Central Plains area; and
- WHEREAS,** The Caddoan traditions of the Central Plains area certainly and unquestionably occupied numerous sites in the geographic area now known as the State of Nebraska; and
- WHEREAS,** The Three Affiliated Tribes are well aware of the ongoing efforts of the Pawnee Tribe of Oklahoma under Nebraska Legislative Bill 340(1989)(Sections 12-1201 et seq., Nebraska Revised Statutes) to successfully repatriate all human remains which, based on available evidence, are considered to be ancestral to the Pawnee people, together with associated grave offerings, from the collections of the Nebraska State Historical Society; (the ongoing support by the Three Affiliated Tribes of the legislative and

administrative efforts of the Pawnee Tribe was first documented in Resolution #88-36-TL, wherein this Council formally manifested its support of LB 612, the predecessor of LB 340); and

WHEREAS, The Three Affiliated Tribes recently learned that the Nebraska State Historical Society has agreed to repatriate to the Pawnee Tribe all remains of the Historic Pawnee and Lower Loup cultures, and associated grave offerings, disinterred over the past seventy years from sites within the State of Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, The Three Affiliated Tribes are also aware that, for several years, the Pawnee Tribe has requested that the Nebraska State Historical Society repatriate all remains ancestral to the Pawnee, which includes Central Plains Caddoan traditions, namely those commonly known as "Upper Republican", "Nebraska" and "St. Helena"; and

WHEREAS, The Three Affiliated Tribes support the efforts of the Pawnee Tribe to assume the lead role in the matter of the repatriation of the human remains and associated grave offerings from Nebraska sites representing the above-identified Central Plains Caddoan traditions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes, pursuant to its Constitutional authority and on behalf of the people of the Arikara Tribe, hereby authorizes and directs the Pawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, on behalf of the Three Affiliated Tribes and the Arikara Tribe particularly, to request the repatriation of all human remains and associated grave offerings from the collections of the Nebraska State Historical Society which are considered to be, based on available evidence, members of (or disinterred from sites thought to be) Central Plains traditions, i.e., Upper Republican, Nebraska and St. Helena.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Pawnee, Wichita and Arikara Tribes, through their respective elected officials and traditional people, shall be responsible for deciding all issues pertaining to the prospective reburial location, and other related issues, for such remains and offerings.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

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 12th day of July, 1990; that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at such Meeting by the affirmative vote of 4 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 the 12th day of July, 1990.

[Signature]
Secretary, Tribal Business Council

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Chairman, Tribal Business Council