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 of said Act; and
- WHEREAS, The Constitution and By-Laws of the Three Affiliated Tribes authorizes and empowers the Tribal Business Council to engage in activities in behalf of and in the best interest of the welfare and benefit of the Tribes and of the enrolled members thereof; and
- WHEREAS, The Tribal Business Council, aware of the general provisions of the Welfare Reform Act of 1996, recognizes the impact that jeopardizes the well-being of tribal members residing on the Fort Berthold Reservation, an area that may be defined by the standards of the Department of Labor as being a "large surplus area; and
- WHEREAS, The Tribal Business Council is cognizant of the specific provision of the Welfare Reform Act whereby persons, age 18-50, with no dependent children and who are not disabled, can receive food stamps for only three (3) months in a three (3) month period unless they are employed, making those individuals in this category ineligible for food stamps beginning March 1, 1997; and
- WHEREAS, The Tribal Business Council, also aware of the provision of the Welfare Reform Act whereby Governors of States can apply for a waiver of the provision described above, urges the Governor of the State of North Dakota to request such a waiver for Reservations because of the extremely high unemployment rate existing in these areas;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That the Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation encourages the State of North Dakota's use of Department of Interior Labor Force Statistics that document the high unemployment rate in Reservation areas; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation strongly urges the Governor of the State of North Dakota to request a waiver of the provision contained in the Welfare Reform Act, whereby persons, age 18-50, with no

RESOLUTION #97-_____-DSB

dependent children and who are not disabled, can receive food stamps for only three (3) months in a three (3) year period unless they are employed.

CERTIFICATION

ATTEST:

Chairman, Tribal Business Council