



ANB – ANS

JUNEAU, ALASKA – September 2015

Resolution #15-07

Title: Foster Children Involvement

WHEREAS, Native children are removed from their homes and placed into the child welfare system at rates much higher than other ethnicities, despite the push to reduce the number of Native children placements. Between 2006 and 2013, 60 percent of Alaskan foster children were Alaskan Native. In Anchorage, six out of every 100 Native children are in foster care. The number of Alaskan Native children in foster care is continuing to grow; and

WHEREAS, children are often placed in homes outside their families and communities making visitation rights and privileges near impossible if at all; and

WHEREAS, placement outside parent's communities, tribes and culture all contribute to significant social problems; and

WHEREAS, Alaska Native families and group homes that share their culture and provide a safe environment are needed throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, the trauma a child in the foster care system have experienced may begin a healing journey when these children are given the compassionate support they need to reconnect with their culture and provided a safe comfortable environment; and

WHEREAS, every effort shall be made to encourage Natives to be foster parents, to provide in ways which will care and comfort the needs of our Native children in foster care, to assist the children in establishing, developing and maintaining a relationship with the child's tribe and tribal community and relatives;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ANS Camp 2 and the ANB & ANS Camp 70, assembled in a joint meeting in September 2015, call for Grand Camp to help these children reconnect with their cultural traditions through the efforts of their local or Regional Tribe and their officials. Tribes are encouraged to do all that is necessary to discharge this responsibility by establishing and funding Tribal Courts, child and family social services, and teaming efforts with others in order to avail our children of necessary services and increase the likelihood of the child remaining with the parents and community;

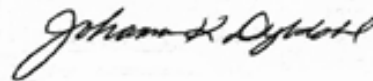
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Tribes that are responsive will nurture staff, judges and elect Councils that establish the care of children as their number 1 priority and goal in order to

protect the Tribe's children in need of positive placement within their culture and community all of which will help nurture a positive sense of being among its members; and

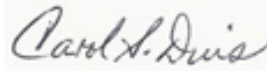
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that ANB and ANS Grand Camp proclaims that this healing journey for this next generation of Alaska Natives is its primary goal to accomplish in its next 100 years of work and will do so by 1) encouraging and supporting its members in providing Native homes and 2) the establishment of Native oriented group homes by each and every Tribe requesting assistance.



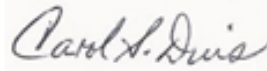
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