



**Alaska Native Brotherhood & Alaska Native
Sisterhood
Grand Camp**



RESOLUTION NO. # 13-10

Title: Support of Tribal Equality in Violence Against Women Act Legislation and the Promotion and Protection of all Indigenous Citizen's Right to Fair and Equal Justice

WHEREAS, The Alaska Native Brotherhood and Alaska Native Sisterhood (ANB and ANS) is an organization dedicated to the advocacy of civil rights, health, education, welfare, employment, economic justice and citizenship; and

WHEREAS, the ANB/ANS possess the authority to safeguard and promote the peace, safety, morals, and general welfare of all tribal families; and

WHEREAS, the ANB/ANS recognizes that domestic and community violence exists within all Communities, and damages and impacts all those within the community; and

WHEREAS, Alaska Native Families have and continue to experience not only domestic, but violence from members of the communities where they reside; and

WHEREAS, many members of Alaska Native Families have been involved in violence perpetrated by community members; and

WHEREAS, the ANB and ANS, have powerfully, intelligently and with union, fought for Alaska Native's rights under the United States Constitution for equal and fair citizenship; and

WHEREAS, Tribal families have the right to safe and secure communities; and

WHEREAS, every United States Citizen should have the right to quiet enjoyment; and

WHEREAS, our communities as a whole would benefit from increased protection and advocacy to better secure high-risk areas by providing, Streaming Web cams, better lighting, Anti-Drug Neighborhood watch programs; and

WHEREAS, timely, culturally sensitive follow up reports from law enforcement, state, and federal agencies when a crime has been committed, would promote peace, justice and respect of all persons: and

WHEREAS, the ANS and ANB has a compelling interest in promoting and maintaining the health and well-being of not only victims of Domestic and Community Violence in our cities, towns and villages, but supporting other tribes that were left out of, or excluded from recent legislation as it impacts all sovereign Indian Nations; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed legislation to reauthorize the Violence Against Women's Act (VAWA) in March 2013; and

WHEREAS, the legislation included a special provision for Alaska Native Tribes and a disclaimer provision related to the law and the status of Alaska Natives (Section 910); and

WHEREAS, with the exception of the Metlakatla Indian Community, Annette Island Reserve, VAWA does not grant expanded jurisdiction to Alaska Native Tribes, and essentially maintains the status quo situation for women and families; and

WHEREAS, the VAWA denies Alaska Native Women equal protection where a native woman is married to a non-native person and an incident of violence occurs; and

WHEREAS, the VAWA continues to limit Alaska Tribal Courts and their court orders from recognition, and maintains the prohibitions for these Tribes to adjudicate non-Indian criminal defendants where violence against women and families has occurred; and

WHEREAS, the VAWA denies equal protection rights to Alaska Native women and clearly discriminates and creates a separate class of tribal citizens, and;

WHEREAS, the VAWA diminishes and violates the sovereignty and inherent rights of the Alaska Native Tribes to protect their women, children and families; and

WHEREAS, no person whether a tribal member or not should be able to violate another person and escape prosecution because of race.

WHEREAS, VAWA perpetuates a policy that does not recognize all federally recognized Indian Tribes with the same governance authority, jurisdiction, and their courts; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alaska Native Brotherhood and the Alaska Native Sisterhood Grand Camp Convention convened in Yakutat , Alaska on October 8-11, 2013, support the efforts of our federal delegation to Washington D.C. and encourage Congress and the State of Alaska to repeal Section 910 of engrossed S. 47 of the 113rd Congress thereby assuring the continued protection of all Alaska Native and Tribal Family Citizens Rights to Fair and Equal Justice and Citizenship,

ANB Grand President

ANS Grand President

ATTEST: I certify that this resolution was adopted by the ANB/ANS Grand Camp in convention at Yakutat, Alaska, during the week of October 8 through 11, 2013.

ANB Grand Secretary