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Organization: The Alaska Federaton of Natives (AFN)
Title:
Comments: HC3014

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES

2019 ANNUAL CONVENTION RESOLUTION 19-57

TITLE: PROTECT CLEAN WATER AND WATER DEPENDENT SPECIES

WHEREAS: The Alaska Federaton of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 191 federally recognized tribes, 171 village corporations, 12 regional corporations and 12 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and

WHEREAS: the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and

WHEREAS: the First Alaskans Institute Elders and Youth Conference is the largest statewide convening of Alaska Native Elders and youth representing our diverse Alaska Native cultures and language groups in order to enhance and perpetuate the unique spirits and identities of our peoples; and

WHEREAS: the purpose of the Elders and youth Conference is to connect Elders and youth for cultural knowledge transmission, strengthen statewide relationships, amplify the power of participants as leaders today, and advance solutions such as these resolutions to challenges faced by our Native peoples and our communities; and

WHEREAS: Water was always treated with the utmost respect, and traditional and customary foods requires careful cultural stewardship and protection of indigenous environmental and natural resources; and

WHEREAS: Alaska's indigenous peoples have relied on clean water; the health of our watr is the most important issue in protecting our wild salmon, the entire ecosystem, and all species that rely on water; and

WHEREAS: Our spiritual connection to the land, air, sea and resources which are abound; gives our people purpose and identity which is more than just water and food, it provides the ability to harvest resources from nature which gives each person, family, and community a reason to live in the areas we have inhabited for millennia.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 2019 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federaton of Natives agree that the future of the generations yet to come hinge upon actions taken today by tribal, regional on-profits, ANCSA Corporations, state and federal leaders to protect the health of our waters and wild salmon therefore any current or future regulation, statute change, or new statute must meet this standard of protecting our traditional Native ways of living and will use the tribal consultation to do so .

[Signature]

Julie Kitka

President

SUBMITTED BY: THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE 2019 FIRST ALASKANS INSTITUTE ELDERS AND YOUTH
CONFERENCE

CONVENTION ACTION: PASSED

[Position]