



CENTRAL COUNCIL  
*Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska*  
Edward K. Thomas Building  
9097 Glacier Highway • Juneau, Alaska 99801

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CENTRAL COUNCIL OF TLINGIT AND HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA  
Eighty-First Annual Tribal Assembly  
April 20-22, 2016  
Juneau, Alaska

Resolution TA/ 16-25

Title: Support for the Unrecognized Southeast Alaska Native Communities Recognition and Compensation Act – S. 872 and H.R. 2386

By: Seattle Tlingit and Haida Community Council

WHEREAS, Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Central Council) is a federally recognized tribe with 30,000 tribal citizens; and

WHEREAS, Central Council exercises its power to address land and resource allocation issues and uses in the Tongass National Forest; and

WHEREAS, in 1971, the United States Congress enacted the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) to recognize and settle the aboriginal claims of Alaska Natives to their traditional homelands by authorizing the establishment of Alaska Native Corporations to receive and manage lands and funds awarded in settlement of the claims of Alaska Natives; and

WHEREAS, ANCSA was passed to provide for a fair and just settlement of all claims by Natives and Native groups of Alaska and was to be accomplished rapidly, with certainty, in conformity with the real economic and social needs of Natives; and

WHEREAS, The Alaska Native communities of Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee and Wrangell (known as Landless communities of Southeast Alaska) were not listed as communities eligible to form Native village or urban corporations under ANCSA despite the fact that these communities comprised greater than 20% of the shareholders of Sealaska; and

WHEREAS, the reason for this exclusion is not explained in the statutory or report language of ANCSA, and an appeal of this exclusion was not authorized in ANCSA; and

WHEREAS, a Congressional report commissioned in 1993 to examine the reasons why the five communities were denied ANCSA eligibility indicates that the communities do not differ significantly from the southeast communities that were allowed ANCSA eligibility; and

WHEREAS, these five Landless communities have sought full eligibility for ANCSA benefits for over four decades; and

WHEREAS, there is currently legislation before Congress and the Senate known as The Unrecognized Southeast Alaska Native Communities Recognition and Compensation Act – S. 872 and H.R. 2386.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Eighty-First Tribal Assembly of Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska convened in Juneau, Alaska on April 20 – 22, 2016, hereby agrees that the Landless communities should be eligible to form Alaska Native Corporations and to receive land selection rights and compensation under ANCSA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President and Executive Council will send letters in support of the legislation, currently referred to as S. 872 and H.R. 2386, to key senators and congressmen of the committees considering the legislation; and

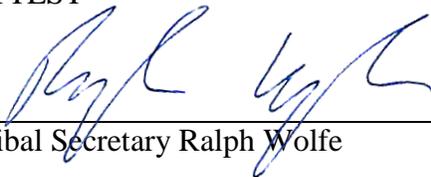
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that Central Council encourage Southeast tribal governments and the local chapters will also send letters in support of the legislation, currently referred to as S. 872 and H.R. 2386, to key senators and congressmen in their states urging their support for the legislation.

ADOPTED this 22nd day of April 2016, by the Eighty-First Tribal Assembly of Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.

CERTIFY

  
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President Richard J. Peterson

ATTEST

  
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Tribal Secretary Ralph Wolfe