



CENTRAL COUNCIL
Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
ANDREW P. HOPE BUILDING
320 West Willoughby Avenue • Suite 300
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1726

Executive Council of the Central Council
TLINGIT AND HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA

Resolution EC/ 14-06

Title: Support for the Native Language Immersion Bill

WHEREAS, Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Central Council) is a federally recognized tribe of more than 29,000 tribal citizens worldwide; and

WHEREAS, through its unique relationship with Indian nations and tribes, the federal government has established programs and resources to meet the educational needs of American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians, residing on and off their reserved or non-reserved homelands; and

WHEREAS, Native language revitalization is a top priority for tribes, as well as Native education stakeholders and communities; and

WHEREAS, funds to support Native language revitalization efforts from current sources are insufficient to address the magnitude of need across the variety of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian communities committed to expanding their indigenous language revitalization efforts; and

WHEREAS, research maintains that the learning of English is improved when one is grounded solidly in the first language from the home and community; and

WHEREAS, Central Council has always maintained a policy of supporting what is best for all of Native education and of not pitting one Native community or segment of the Native community over another.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Council supports the efforts of expanding immersion and language revitalization efforts within the Elementary and Secondary Education Act but not at the expense of existing funding and if immersion and language revitalization efforts are expanded within the Native education funding and resources shall not be allocated from existing programs so that programs can continue to adequately address the cultural, linguistic, and educational needs of Native students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Council further support the recommendation of the expansion of funds and services to support the core program of student instruction and to address the critical needs of Native language revitalization efforts by including teacher training, curriculum development, evaluation and assessment, and Native parent and

community as well as tribal involvement in a child's education but not at the expense of current students and programmatic funding.

ADOPTED this 24th day of January 2014, by the Executive Council of the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, by a vote of 6 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions and 0 absences.

CERTIFY



President Edward K. Thomas

ATTEST



Tribal Secretary Harold Houston, Sr.