



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



**RESOLUTION NO. # 13-13**

**Title:** RIGHTS AND SOVEREIGNTY OF NATIVE HUNTERS, GATHERERS, AND FISHERMEN

WHEREAS, the Alaska Native Brotherhood and Alaska Native Sisterhood works to better the lives of Native American people and their families; to continue to fight for civil rights and land rights for all Alaska Native people; to share the cultural knowledge and wisdom of Native citizens; and to strive for a spirit of brotherhood and sisterhood among all people; and

WHEREAS, Federal Judge Russell Holland ruled in 1996 that the Tyonek tribe does have sovereign immunity; therefore the tribe can set and enforce its own laws making this a victory for all tribes in Alaska and tribal status a “non-issue” with the state. This case granted tribal status to roughly 200 Alaska tribes who do not have to go through a lengthy court process to get judicial status; and

WHEREAS, sovereignty of Alaska Native peoples allows them to self-governance and self-regulation of their traditional hunting, gathering, and fishing rights; and

WHEREAS, the Indian Tribal Justice Act states there is a government-to-government relationship between the United States and each Indian tribe; Congress, through statutes, treaties, and exercise of administrative authorities, has recognized the self-determination, self-reliance, and inherent sovereignty of Indian tribes; and

WHEREAS, traditional gathering and harvesting of fish and wild game constitutes Southeast Alaska Natives nutritional, spiritual and cultural foundation since time immemorial;

WHEREAS, in 1821 Alexander I of Tsarist Russia attempted to claim Alaska declaring that United States merchants can no longer trade directly with the Native Nations; In response, Secretary of State John Quincy Adams on behalf of United States President James Monroe declared in diplomatic communication that this territory was not part of the Russian Empire and asserted that the Native Nations were Independent tribes inhabiting an independent territory. Natives possess “title” with full sovereignty and independence as any European nation under the law of nations.

THEREFORE, IN CONSIDERATION OF THE ABOVE FACTS, it is resolved by the Alaska Native Brotherhood and Alaska Native Sisterhood Grand Camp as follows:

1. That Federal Government agencies, State of Alaska, and Subsistence Board should honor the inherent rights and sovereignty of Native hunters, gatherers, and fishermen on a government-to-government relationship;
2. That proper government-to-government consultation with all Tribal Governments be conducted by Federal Government agencies, State of Alaska, and Subsistence Board on all matters regarding inherent rights of hunting, gathering, and fishing;

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ANB Grand President

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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.

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ANB Grand Secretary