



ANB/ANS Grand Camp

Ketchikan, AK October 2018



Resolution 18-01

Title: Upholding the Indian Child Welfare Act

WHEREAS, On October 4, 2018 a Texas U.S. District Judge failed to follow the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) in an adoption of a tribal child on the basis that ICWA discriminates against non-Natives; and

WHEREAS, ICWA ensures the safety of tribal children, keeps tribal children connected to their culture, and promotes tribal sovereignty; and

WHEREAS, The Alaska Native Brotherhood (ANB) and Alaska Native Sisterhood (ANS) are concerned about the impact of the October 4, 2018 ruling in that it may dismantle the little protection that Native American children have in staying connected to their sovereign tribes and further increase the disproportionate number of tribal children represented in child welfare systems across the nation; and

WHEREAS, The ANB and ANS Grand Camp acknowledge with gratitude the State of Alaska and the 229 Alaska tribes for their efforts to strengthen and maintain ICWA in recent years with the signing of the Tribal State Compacting Agreement, HB 200, and HB 17; and

WHEREAS, The State of Alaska's Department of Health and Social Services continues to report a disproportionate 60% rate of children in out-of-home-care who are Native American when the general population of Native Americans in Alaska is 20%;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alaska Native Brotherhood and the Alaska Native Sisterhood, assembled in Grand Camp in October 2018, urge and insist upon protection of the Indian Child Welfare Act as a top priority of the United States of America, the State of Alaska and their agencies.

/s/ Sasha Soboleff, Grand President
Alaska Native Brotherhood

/s/ Cecelia Tavoliero, Grand President
Alaska Native Sisterhood

/s/ James A. Llanos Jr, Grand Secretary
Alaska Native Brotherhood

/s/ Carol Duis, Grand Secretary
Alaska Native Sisterhood