



2021 Virtual Mid-Year Convention

RESOLUTION #2021 – 21

“SUPPORTING SENATE CONFIRMATION OF LAUREN J. KING AS A FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT JUDGE”

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants rights secured under Indian Treaties, Executive Orders and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and constitution of the United States and several states, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise promote the welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) are representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and specific tribal concerns; and

WHEREAS, ATNI is a regional organization comprised of American Indians/Alaska Natives and tribes in the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Nevada, Northern California, and Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of ATNI; and

WHEREAS, on May 12, 2021, President Joseph R. Biden nominated Lauren J. King, a citizen of the Muscogee Creek Nation, to serve as a federal district judge for the United States District Court for the Western Washington District of Washington; and

WHEREAS, in the 230-year history of the U.S. courts, only four Native Americans have ever served as federal judges; and

WHEREAS, if confirmed, Lauren J. King would be one of only three active Native American judges on the federal bench, and she would be the first Native American judge to serve

on the federal bench in the State of Washington; and

WHEREAS, Lauren J. King has a strong background in federal Indian law, which includes serving as Chair of the Native American Law Practice Group at Foster Garvey, P.C., serving as a Commissioner on the Washington State Gambling Commission, serving as a pro tem appellate judge for the Northwest Intertribal Court System; and having taught Federal Indian Law at the Seattle University School of Law; and

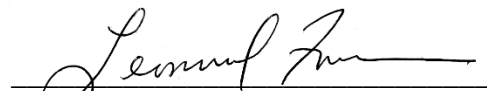
WHEREAS, Lauren J. King has demonstrated her commitment to Indian Country by her service to the Northwest Tribal Court Judges Association, Muscogee Reservation Protection Commission, Seattle Indian Health Board, Northwest Indian Bar Association, and Washington State Bar Association Indian Law Section; and

WHEREAS, Lauren J. King’s nomination has been endorsed by the Muscogee Creek Nation, National Congress of American Indians, and Native American Rights Fund, now

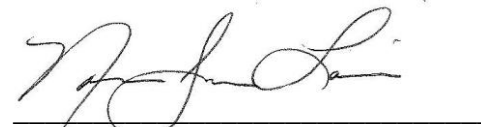
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI urges the United States Senate to confirm the nomination of Lauren J. King to serve as a federal district judge for the United States District Court for the Western Washington District of Washington.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2021 Virtual Mid-Year Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, Portland, Oregon, on May 24 – May 27, 2021, with a quorum present.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary