



**ALASKA FEDERATION
OF NATIVES**

**ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
AFN LEGISLATIVE/LITIGATION COMMITTEE**

2012 RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 12-01

**TITLE: SUPPORT OF A STATE OF ALASKA ACT TO ESTABLISH THE ALASKA
NATIVE LANGUAGE PRESERVATION AND ADVISORY COUNCIL AND
RELATING TO THE PRESERVATION, RESTORATION AND
REVITALIZATION OF ALASKA NATIVE LANGUAGES**

WHEREAS: Alaska Native Languages have been spoken for thousands of years; and

**WHEREAS: Alaska Native Languages represent a significant resource of the State of Alaska
and have contributed to its vitality and diversity; and**

WHEREAS: Alaska Native Languages are threatened by extinction; and

**WHEREAS: the foundation of Alaska Native cultures and ancient traditional knowledge are
embedded in Alaska Native languages; and**

**WHEREAS: knowledge of Alaska Natives languages promotes positive self-identity of Alaska
Natives; and**

**WHEREAS: studies have demonstrated that the academic performance of Alaska Native
students improve when Alaska Native students are taught their Native language
and culture; and**

**WHEREAS: Alaska Native corporations, organizations, and tribes and educational entities
throughout the State of Alaska are attempting to restore and teach Alaska Native
Languages; and**

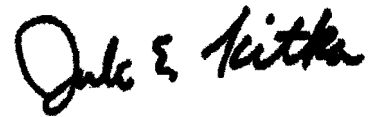
**WHEREAS: the Legislature of the State of Alaska is proposing through the proposed Senate
Bill 130 to establish an Alaska Native Language Preservation and Advisory
Council and relating to the preservation, restoration, and revitalization of Alaska
Native languages.**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Alaska Federation of Natives conveys its support
of Senate Bill No. 130 and urges the Alaska State Legislature and the Governor of
Alaska to enact and sign into law the referenced Act.**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Alaska Native Federal of Natives further urges the Alaska State Legislature and Governor of Alaska to support the allocation of funds to support Alaska Native Language restoration programs.

PASSED THIS 23RD DAY

OF JANUARY 23, 2012



Julie E. Kitka
President