

LITTLE TRAVERSE BAY BANDS OF ODAWA INDIANS

7500 Odawa Circle
Harbor Springs, MI 49740

TRIBAL RESOLUTION # 102206-04

Affirming the Benefits of Affirmative Action

- WHEREAS** the Waganakising Odawak is a nation of citizens with inherent sovereignty and right to self-governance;
- WHEREAS** the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians is a federally recognized Indian Tribe under Public Law 103-324, and is a party to numerous Treaties with the United States the most recent of which being the Treaty of Washington of March 28, 1836 (7 Stat. 491) and the Treaty of Detroit of 1855 (11 Stat. 621);
- WHEREAS** the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Tribal Council is the elected legislative body of the Tribe;
- WHEREAS** the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Tribal Council opposes discrimination and supports programs to advance equal opportunity and access for women and minorities in public education, contracting and employment;
- WHEREAS** the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Tribal Council recognizes that affirmative action is beneficial in addition to the Tribe's special political status that has also suffered the affects of long-term discrimination;
- WHEREAS** though progress has been made in reducing the present effects of past discrimination in public education, contracting and employment, temporary race- or gender-specific programs to redress remaining disparities are still needed and necessary;
- WHEREAS** the U.S. Supreme Court agrees that affirmative action is necessary to "cultivate a set of leaders with legitimacy in the eyes of the citizenry, it is necessary that the path to leadership be visibly open to talented and qualified individuals of every race and ethnicity" (Supreme Court majority opinion in Grutter v. Bollinger, 2003);
- WHEREAS** enactment of anti-equal opportunity and affirmative action initiatives such as California's Proposition 209 (1996) and Washington State's Initiative 200 (1998) have resulted in the abolishment of programs to recruit women and minorities into non-traditional professions in math, sciences, and the trades,

caused a precipitous drop in the enrollment of minorities in the top higher education institutions in those states, and threatened efforts to integrate the public schools;

WHEREAS Ward Connerly original sponsor of the California and Washington measures, is backing a similar proposed amendment to Michigan's Constitution, called "Proposal 2" that would ban public sector voluntary affirmative action programs;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Tribal Council supports continuation of voluntary public-sector affirmative action programs in education, contracting, and employment;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Tribal Council supports efforts to educate Michigan's voters about the threat to equal opportunity and affirmative action programs and joins with One United Michigan, a coalition of organizations supporting continuation of affirmative action programs in Michigan, and urges Tribal Citizens to inform themselves about this important public issue.

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Tribal Council authorizes a \$5000.00 donation to One United Michigan, to come from prior year fund balance.

CERTIFICATION

As Tribal Council Legislative Leader and Tribal Council Secretary, we certify that this Tribal Resolution was duly adopted by the Tribal Council of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians at a regular meeting of the Tribal Council held October 22, 2006 at which a quorum was present, by a vote of 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, 1 absent as recorded by this roll call:

	In Favor	Opposed	Abstained	Absent
Regina Gasco Bentley	X			
Fred Harrington, Jr.	X			
Dexter McNamara	X			
Mary Roberts	X			
Rita Shananaquet	X			
Alice Yellowbank	X			
Shirley Oldman				X
Melvin L. Kiogima	X			
Beatrice A. Law	X			

Date: _____

 Beatrice A. Law, Legislative Leader

Date: _____

 Melvin L. Kiogima, Secretary

Received by the Executive Office on _____ by _____

Pursuant to Article VII, Section D, Subsection 1 of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Constitution adopted on February 1, 2005 the Executive concurs in this action of the Tribal Council.

Date: _____

 Frank Ettawageshik, Tribal Chairperson