

Fort Belknap Indian Community

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT TREATING THE FORT BELKNAP INDIAN COMMUNITY AS A STATE FOR PURPOSES OF RECEIVING AND MANAGING FUNDS ALLOCATED UNDER THE 21ST CENTURY CURES ACT AND THE INCLUSION OF METHAMPHETAMINE USE IN THE LIST OF DRUGS TO BE ADDRESSED

WHEREAS, the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council is the governing body of the Gros Ventre and Assiniboine Tribes of the Fort Belknap Indian Community, Fort Belknap Indian Reservation, Montana, by the authority of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Fort Belknap Tribes approved on the 13 day of December 1935, and

WHEREAS, under the Constitution and By-Laws of the Fort Belknap Indian Community, the Community Council is charged with the duty of protecting the health, security and general welfare of the Fort Belknap Indian Community, and

WHEREAS on January 4, 2016, the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council, through Resolution 01-2016, declared a State of Emergency for the Communities, Families, and Children of the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation Related to Methamphetamine and Other Dangerous Drugs as a measure to prevent imminent peril to the public health, safety and welfare of the members of the Fort Belknap Indian Community (SEE Attachment A, FBIC Resolution 01-2016, attached herein and incorporated by reference); and

WHEREAS such conditions continue to exist and are in need of continued and constant attention to combat the illegal drug activity and its effects throughout the Fort Belknap Indian Community; and

WHEREAS the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council, through its various governmental offices continues with the struggle to address such issues with limited resources and underfunding; and

WHEREAS on December 13, 2016, the 21st Century Cures Act, P.L. 114-255 ("Cures Act") in an effort to assist in addressing the nationwide drug problem, authorizing \$500 million for FY2017 and 2018 for the U.S. Secretary of the Department of the Interior to support state responses to opioid abuse; and,

WHEREAS the Cures Act failed to include Indian tribes alongside states as eligible to be direct grantees, thereby failing to recognize the government-to-government relationship between Indian tribes and the federal government; and

WHEREAS the Honorable Senator Daines has offered an amendment to the Cures Act to include Indian tribes as eligible grantees for the purposes of direct funding and to include methamphetamine in the described drugs to be combatted.


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council reiterates its stance against illegal drugs, drug activity and their effects, including all opioids and methamphetamine.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council hereby wholeheartedly supports the treatment of the Fort Belknap Indian Community, and all other eligible Indian tribes, as states for the purpose of being eligible grantees of any monies realized through the 21st Century Cures Act to fight this nationwide epidemic.


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council wishes to express our gratitude to Senator Daines for his continued recognition of the government-to-government relationship between Indian tribes and the federal government as demonstrated with his proposed amendment to the 21st Century Cures Act to include Indian tribes on the same basis as states and to expand the named drugs to include methamphetamine.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council Officers are hereby delegated the authority and responsibility to sign all documents necessary to affect this action.

ATTEST:



Andrew Werk, Jr., President
Fort Belknap Indian Community Council



Steve Fox, Secretary/Treasurer
Fort Belknap Indian Community Council

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council of the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation, Montana, do hereby certify that the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council is composed of 10 (ten) members of whom 8 members constituting a quorum were present at a meeting thereof, duly and regularly called, noticed, convened and held this 14th day of December, 2017; and that the foregoing Resolution of the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council was duly adopted and approved the affirmative vote of 8 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting; 0 temporary absent; 2 excused absent; and that the said Resolution has not been rescinded in any way.

DATE: 12-14-2017



Steven Fox, Secretary/Treasurer
Fort Belknap Indian Community Council

Fort Belknap Indian Community

WHEREAS, the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council is the governing body of the Gros Ventre and Assiniboine Tribes of the Fort Belknap Indian Community, Fort Belknap Indian Reservation, Montana, by the authority of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Fort Belknap Tribes approved on the 13 day of December 1935, and

WHEREAS, under the Constitution and By-Laws of the Fort Belknap Indian Community, the Community Council is charged with the duty of protecting the health, security and general welfare of the Fort Belknap Indian Community, and

DECLARATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR THE COMMUNITIES, FAMILIES, AND CHILDREN OF THE FORT BELKNAP INDIAN RESERVATION RELATED TO METHAMPHETAMINE AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS

WHEREAS the use, abuse, manufacturing and trafficking of illegal substances on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation including but not limited to methamphetamine, prescription medications and heroin, has rapidly and continuously increased; and

WHEREAS, the use, abuse, manufacturing and trafficking of methamphetamine and illegal narcotics and substances has reached an epidemic proportion on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation creating disastrous situations; and

WHEREAS, the use, abuse, manufacturing and trafficking of methamphetamine and illegal narcotics and substances wreak havoc in families, including a steady increase in babies born with addiction issues, high rates of child abuse and neglect, high rates of violent crimes and property theft, increase in domestic violence incidents, and threatening the overall safety and well-being of individuals on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation; and

WHEREAS the use, abuse, manufacturing and trafficking of methamphetamine and illegal substances on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation severely and negatively impacts the self-sufficiency of individuals as well as undermines the self-determination of the Fort Belknap Indian Community to provide adequate services to members of the Fort Belknap Indian Community; and,

WHEREAS, the use, abuse, manufacturing and trafficking of illegal substances produces environmental hazards including drug paraphernalia being scattered in public places, endangering the health, safety and welfare of children and families, and contamination of housing, making such dwellings unsafe for habitation and unsafe for first responders and those involved in remediating the effects to housing; and,

WHEREAS, such use, effects and consequences of such drug activity is culturally inappropriate and destructive for the Gros Ventre and Assiniboine people of the Fort Belknap Indian Community; and,

WHEREAS, the influx of drug activity to the Fort Belknap Indian Community has overflowing effects in surrounding communities, agencies and other tribal jurisdictions; and,

WHEREAS, the Fort Belknap Indian Community lacks sufficient health, law enforcement, judicial, monetary and human resources needed to combat this rise in illegal drug activity and current services are in dire need of resources to continue to combat the effects of use, abuse, manufacturing and trafficking of illegal substances.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT DECLARED that the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council, as a measure to prevent imminent peril to the public health, safety and welfare of the members of the Fort Belknap Indian Community hereby declares that a STATE OF EMERGENCY exists on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation.

BE IT FURTHER DECLARED that any resources made available to the Fort Belknap Indian Community will be used in coordination with Federal, state and local government offices to combat the disastrous effects of use, abuse, manufacturing and trafficking of methamphetamine and illegal narcotics and substances on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation for the purpose of restoring the peace and safety to the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation.

BE IT FINALLY DECLARED that this Declaration shall remain in effect until formally rescinded by future action of FBIC Council.

ATTEST:



Mark L. Azure, President
Fort Belknap Indian Community Council



Robert Bearcub, Secretary/Treasurer
Fort Belknap Indian Community

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council of the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation, Montana, do hereby certify that the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council is composed of 10 (ten) members of whom 10 members constituting a quorum were present at a meeting thereof, duly and regularly called, noticed, convened and held this 4th day of Jan, 2016; and that the foregoing Resolution of the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council was duly adopted and approved the affirmative vote of 10 for, 0 opposed; 0 not voting; 0 temporary absent; 0 excused absent; and that the said Resolution has not been rescinded in any way.

DATE: 1/4/2016



Robert Bear Cub, Secretary/Treasurer
Fort Belknap Indian Community