



CENTRAL COUNCIL
Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
Office of the President • Edward K. Thomas Building
9097 Glacier Highway • Juneau, Alaska 99801

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF TLINGIT & HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA
Eighty-Seventh Annual Tribal Assembly
April 20-22, 2022
Juneau, Alaska

Resolution TA 22-17

Title: Reaffirmation of Support to Amend of the Alaska Native Vietnam Era Veterans Land Allotment Act

By: Juneau Tlingit & Haida Community Council

WHEREAS, the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) is a federally recognized tribe with more than 34,000 citizens; and

WHEREAS, Public Law 116-9, which was passed by Congress on March 12, 2019, included the Alaska Native Vietnam Era Veterans Land Allotment Act, and the purpose of this Act is to provide an opportunity for certain Alaska Native Vietnam era veterans to select and receive an allotment of federal land in the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, under the Act an “eligible individual” means an individual who is a Native veteran who served during the period between August 5, 1964, and December 31, 1971; and

WHEREAS, eligible Alaska Native veterans have until December 29, 2025, to make their land selection; and

WHEREAS, lands available for selection include “available federal land” but exclude Southeast Alaska ancestral lands that are currently within a unit of the National Forest System - such as the Tongass National Forest or within a unit of the National Park System, a National Preserve, or a National Monument; and

WHEREAS, this exclusion effectively denies the approximately 500 eligible veterans (or their heirs) the ability to select lands in their homelands of Southeast Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida passed Tribal Assembly Resolution 20-26 to support an amendment that would allow eligible veterans (or their heirs) to receive an allotment within their homelands; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eighty-Seventh Tribal Assembly of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska delegation convened April 20-22, 2022, hereby reaffirms that Tlingit & Haida supports Alaska Native Vietnam era veteran's in their effort to pursue an amendment to Public Law 116-9 to allow Alaska Native veterans to draw lands from the Tongass National Forest; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Tlingit & Haida will urge Alaska's congressional delegation to quickly act given the imminent deadline for selections.


ADOPTED this 20th day of April, 2022, by the Eighty-Seventh Tribal Assembly of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.

CERTIFY



President Richard J. Peterson

ATTEST



Tribal Secretary Jacqueline L. Pata