

United Tribes of Michigan

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Frank Ettawageshik, Executive Director

RESOLUTION # 048 10-26-2016

United Tribes of Michigan Support of Legislation to Address the Improper State Taxation of Reservation-Domiciled Service members

WHEREAS, the membership of United Tribes of Michigan (UTM) is open to all of the twelve federally recognized tribes located in Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the organization provides a forum for the Tribes in Michigan to address issues of common concern and is committed to join forces to advance, protect, preserve and enhance the mutual interests, treaty rights, sovereignty, and cultural way of life of the sovereign Indian Tribes of Michigan throughout the next seven generations; and

WHEREAS, UTM accepts the mission to engage, as a matter of mutual concern, issues that impact the health, security, safety, and general welfare of Native Americans; and

WHEREAS, American Indians have fought in every war for the United States since the American Revolution and currently serve in the United States Armed Forces at a higher rate than any other ethnic group, many having paid the ultimate sacrifice for their effort; and

WHEREAS, federal law prohibits states from taxing the pay of military service members who are not a domiciliary of that state; and

WHEREAS, for up to twenty-four years, the U.S. Department of Treasury improperly withheld military pay for states, from American Indian service members domiciled on reservations in twenty-six states; and


WHEREAS, honoring the dedication of American Indian service members and veterans and upholding the federal trust responsibility are both moral and legal reasons for the United States Congress to restore pay to eligible American Indian veterans and service members who had state income tax illegally withheld from their military pay by

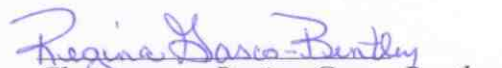
the Department of Treasury.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the United Tribes of Michigan does hereby call upon its members and member Tribes to urge Congress to restore pay to eligible service members and veterans who were illegally taxed by the state in which they were domiciled on their reservation during their time of military service; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of UTM until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution

Adopted by a vote of 7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining, at a meeting of the United Tribes of Michigan held on 10-26-2016.


Chairman Aaron Payment
UTM President


Chairwoman Regina Gasco Bentley
UTM Secretary