

# *Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council*

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RESOLUTION NO.: PL 10-18

## **RESOLUTION OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE NIXON, NEVADA**

**WHEREAS,** the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe is organized pursuant to the provisions of Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act (25 U.S.C. § 476) and is federally recognized by the United States Government through the Secretary of the Interior and the Bureau of Indian Affairs; and

**WHEREAS,** the Tribe realizes that we must advocate and lobby for the enactment of relevant and targeted legislation to ensure that federal agriculture policy meets Tribal needs; and

**WHEREAS,** the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe (Tribe) has utilized and does utilize programs from the current and previous Farm Bills which are of major importance to the well-being and benefit of the Tribe, its People, and Agricultural Resources (including the Fisheries) and;

**WHEREAS,** The Tribe understands that the Congress of the United States is preparing to deliberate the nature of agriculture policy for the nation, and the world, in the form of the 2018 Farm Bill; which will authorize all farm programs, rural development, and nutrition initiatives within the United States Department of Agriculture; and

**WHEREAS,** the Tribe recognizes that a majority of the land in Indian Country is in agriculture production; and that a great many of the citizens and tribal members live in rural areas and communities where basic infrastructure costs are often prohibitively high; and the 2018 Farm Bill will provide an authorization of federal funding for rural infrastructure initiatives; and

**WHEREAS,** the citizens and members of these areas are often afflicted by a poverty of place, wherein they are unable to find suitable employment to provide adequate income that supports good nutrition for their families; and thus may rely on federal nutrition programs authorized in the Farm Bill; and

**WHEREAS,** In spite of the great strides made for Indian Country agriculture in previous Farm Bill negotiations; from going virtually unmentioned in the 1990s to many

thoughtful provisions scattered across all Titles; the \$3.4 billion generated annually through Indian agricultural efforts is still more than 99% raw commodities, instead of the healthy, local, economically beneficial, and nutritious food needed in Indian Country communities and rural areas; and

**WHEREAS,** An effort is underway by the Native Farm Bill Coalition, led by the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC), the Intertribal Agriculture Council (IAC), the Indigenous Food and Ag Initiative at the University of Arkansas School of Law (IFAI), and the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) to preserve and expand upon the gains made in the previous 30 years of Farm Bill discussions in each of the aforementioned areas; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** the Tribe acknowledges this effort as the best opportunity in decades for Indian Country to effectively advocate and lobby for enactment of truly relevant and targeted legislation to ensure that federal agriculture policy seeks to enhance the development of this industry beyond raw commodities; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council, the governing body for the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe joins the Native Farm Bill Coalition and supports the “Regaining Our Future” report and the policy initiatives generated therefrom

#### **CERTIFICATION**

It is hereby certified that the foregoing resolution of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council, governing body of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, composed of ten members, of whom constituting a quorum were present at a meeting duly held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2018 was adopted by the affirmative vote of eight (8) FOR and zero (0) AGAINST, with zero (0) ABSTENTIONS; pursuant to the authority contained in the Constitution and By-laws of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.

  
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Brenda A. Henry, Tribal Secretary  
PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBAL COUNCIL