



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

Executive Council of the Central Council
TLINGIT & HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA

Resolution EC 25-24

Title: Affirming Support for Tribal Self-Determination in Education and State-Tribal Education Compacting

WHEREAS, the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) is a federally recognized tribe with more than 38,000 citizens; and

WHEREAS, under Article X of the Tlingit & Haida Constitution, the Executive Council is the governing body of Tlingit & Haida when the Tribal Assembly is not in session; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Assembly is not in session; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida is committed to supporting the education of our children in order to prepare them for successful and fulfilling futures, in accordance with tribal values; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida is committed to the protection and advancement of its citizens' educational, cultural, and economic interests; and

WHEREAS, for generations, Alaska Native communities have sought greater self-determination in education, recognizing that culturally responsive learning environments improve student outcomes and preserve our Indigenous languages, cultures, and ways of knowing; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida completed negotiations with four tribes across Alaska and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development as a result of tribal resolution EC 22-71 "Authorization to Apply for State Tribal Education Compacting Demonstration Tribal Partners Grant Program"; and

WHEREAS, as a result of negotiation process with the Department of Education, the State Tribal Education Compact Demonstration Report was introduced to Alaska state legislature in 2023; and

WHEREAS, tribal governments have the inherent right to define and lead the education of their citizens, and state-tribal education compacting represents a meaningful step toward realizing this right; and

WHEREAS, state-tribal education compacting aligns with the Tribe’s education priorities by ensuring culturally relevant education and supporting student success through the integration of Indigenous language, history, and values into school governance and curriculum, while also providing the flexibility to implement culturally grounded education models tailored to the needs of our communities; and

WHEREAS, any legislation implementing state-tribal education compacting should be carefully structured to uphold tribal sovereignty and ensure that public education funds remain dedicated to supporting tribal education and self-determination; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida emphasizes the importance of developing state-tribal education compacts through full collaboration with tribal governments, ensuring they remain a tool for strengthening tribal self-governance in education;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska reaffirms its unwavering support for tribal self-determination in education and the development of State-Tribal Education Compacts that uphold tribal sovereignty and autonomy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Tlingit & Haida calls upon other Alaska tribes, tribal organizations, Alaska Native Corporations, school districts, and partners to support this work, recognizing its potential to transform educational outcomes for students across the state; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Tlingit & Haida urges the Alaska Legislature and Governor to ensure that any education compacting legislation remains focused on strengthening tribal self-governance in education and remains aligned with the interests of Alaska Native communities; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that Tlingit & Haida stands ready to collaborate with the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, school districts, and state policymakers to ensure the successful advancement of the tribally led education compacting as a demonstration model for long-term education self-governance in Alaska

ADOPTED this 21st day of February 2025, by the Executive Council of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, by a vote of 6 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions and 0 absences.

CERTIFY



President Richard J. Peterson

ATTEST



Tribal Secretary Jacqueline L. Pata