

Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council

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RESOLUTION NO.: PL 071-20

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 governing body of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe (“Tribe”) is organized under the provisions of the Indian Reorganization Act of June, 1934, as amended, to exercise certain rights of home rule and to be responsible for the promotion of the economic and social welfare of its members; and
- WHEREAS,** the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council is charged with the responsibility of establishing policy, taking action to protect the peace and safety of Tribal members; and taking action to provide administrative guidelines; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribe’s Constitution provides the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council the power to employ legal counsel and consultants; and
- WHEREAS,** Tribal members vote in local and federal elections administered by the State of Nevada; and
- WHEREAS,** the State of Nevada has adopted or may adopt a "Ballot Collection Ban" that prohibits people from delivering a ballot to the mail for someone other than a family member which would make this activity a felony with a sentence up to a 4-year prison term and/or a \$5,000.00 fine, and certain political groups have pushed for this law to prevent fraud during an election; and
- WHEREAS,** the Ballot Collection Ban is discriminatory against Native nations as the Post Office does not deliver the mail to houses on many Reservations, most have to travel to the post office, and often people deliver and pick up mail for others including for elders; and
- WHEREAS,** many Tribal members and others on the Pyramid Lake Paiute Reservation have people pick up and deliver their mail, and this activity is often performed by Community Health Representatives (CHRs) to assist elders and disabled with their mail; and
- WHEREAS,** the COVID-19 pandemic has increased the use of people using others to pick-up and deliver their mail in an effort to combat the pandemic; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council recognizes that the State of Nevada’s Ballot Collection Ban will disenfranchise Tribal members and others living on the Reservation because it will not allow these people to have someone deliver their absentee ballots to the Post Office; and
- WHEREAS,** the Native American Rights Fund (“NARF”) has offered to file a lawsuit against the State of Nevada and any others to contest the Ballot Collection Ban and any other laws that suppress and/or disenfranchise Tribal members;

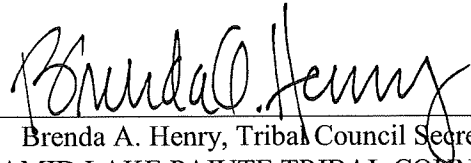
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pyramid Lake Tribal Council hereby approves the

attached “Legal Representation Agreement Between the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe and the Native American Rights Fund”;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Tribal Chairman or her designee is hereby authorized to sign the agreement and any related documents, and to take any actions necessary to execute the intentions of this Resolution.

CERTIFICATION

It is hereby certified that the foregoing resolution of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe composed of ten members of whom nine (9) constituting a quorum adopted the foregoing resolution on the 2nd day of **July 2020** by the affirmative vote of eight (8) FOR, zero (0) AGAINST, and zero (0) ABSTENTIONS; pursuant to the authority contained in the Constitution and By-Laws of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of Nevada.



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