



SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBE

RESOLUTION NO. 18-68

of the

SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the Squaxin Island Tribal Council is the Governing Body of the Squaxin Island Tribe, its members, its lands, its enterprises and its agencies by the authority of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Squaxin Island Tribe, as approved and adopted by the General Body and the Secretary of the Interior on July 8, 1965; and

WHEREAS, under the Constitution, Bylaws and inherent sovereignty of the Tribe, the Squaxin Island Tribal Council is charged with the duty of protecting the health, security, education and general welfare of the tribal members, and with protecting and managing the lands and treaty resources and rights of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, The Tribe is a federally-recognized Indian Tribe possessing reserved powers, including the powers of self government;

WHEREAS, the Squaxin Island Tribal Council has been entrusted with the creation of ordinances and resolutions in order to fulfill their duty of protecting the health, security, education, and general welfare of tribal members, and of protecting and managing the lands and treaty resources of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives; and

WHEREAS, our forests, waters, wetlands and other natural landscapes are the foundation of all life, and they are our most affordable, effective, and proven tools for carbon sequestration and climate change resiliency; and

WHEREAS, climate change is an urgent and existential threat to these ecosystems, the wildlife that inhabit them, and the human communities who rely on both for their survival; and

WHEREAS, an aggressive, comprehensive, innovative, and socially equitable climate change policy, I-1631, has been introduced as an initiative to the people of Washington State, and will be enacted into law if it receives a majority of votes in the November 6, 2018 elections; and

WHEREAS, I-1631 was formulated after an exhaustive six-month-long consultation process open to all Washington Tribes, which took the form of dozens of meetings, negotiations, conference calls, summits, and briefings, assisted by thousands of electronic communications amongst Tribes, their leaders, staff, and consultants; and

WHEREAS, I-1631 was co-written by Tribal leaders and experts, and has been introduced publicly with Washington Tribal leaders in a co-leadership role; and

WHEREAS, Tribal co-management is embodied at every level of the decision-making structure created by the initiative, with Tribal co-chairs of the most important committees; and

WHEREAS, I-1631 includes the most robust, detailed, and serious Tribal sovereignty and consultation platform ever proposed for State law, requiring “free, prior, and informed consent” for projects that impact Tribal lands or sovereignty for all Tribes that have consultation rights in Washington State, including those headquartered in neighboring states; and

WHEREAS, I-1631 provides for the relocation of coastal Tribes at risk of sea level rise, and for autonomous wildfire prevention, suppression, and recovery; and

WHEREAS, I-1631 invests more in the rehabilitation of rural economies and the conservation and stewardship of farms, fisheries, and tree farms than any other policy ever considered in state; and

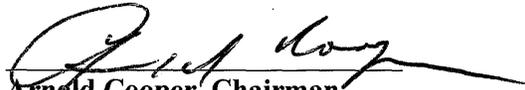
WHEREAS, the passage of I-1631 would be both a major leap forward towards a sustainable future for Washington State and true political equality and sovereignty for Washington’s Tribes and their citizens; now

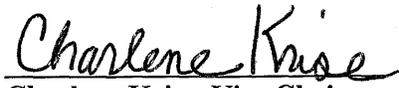
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Tribal Council formally supports the passage of I-1631 this November; and

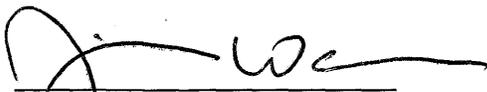
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Tribal Council fully supports the continued co-management of the fight against climate change by Tribal leaders, the continued empowerment of their voices in the upcoming campaign, and the fight for the political equality of all peoples.

CERTIFICATION

The Squaxin Island Tribal Council does hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted at the regular meeting of the Squaxin Island Tribal Council, held on this 11 day of October, 2018 at which time a quorum was present and was passed by a vote of 5 for and 0 against with 0 abstentions.


Arnold Cooper, Chairman


Charlene Krise, Vice Chairman


Jeremie Walls, Secretary