SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBE

Route 1, Box 257 • Shelton, Washington 98584

Calvin J. Peters - Chairman Bryan A. Johnson - Vice Chairman Sally Ann Norman - Secretary Florence Sigo - Tribal Historian

Wesley Whitener - Treasurer Calvin J. Peters - Business Manager John Krise - Councilman

RESOLUTION NO. 76-28

of the

SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the Squaxin Island Tribal Council is the Governing Body of the Squaxin Island Indian Reservation by authority of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Squaxin Island Tribe, as approved and adopted by the General Body and the Secretary of the Interior on July 8, 1976, and

WHEREAS, the Squaxin Island Tribal Council has reviewed a proposed resolution and program submitted through a Tribal Represented by the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe and the Native American Rights Fund, and

WHEREAS, the Squaxin Island Tribal is aware of the data relating to the highly disproportionate numbers of Indian people who are arrested, convicted and confined in the state and federal prisons, and

WHEREAS, the Squaxin Island Tribal Council concurrs with the overwhelming evidence that Indians have a higher number of males confined in prison than any other ethnic group in this country, and that these Indian people are subjected to discrimination in both the areas of confinement and parole, and are provided with irrelevant rehabilitation programs which are not geared to meet the unique needs of Indian people, and

WHEREAS, the Squaxin Island Tribal Council is all too aware that as a result of these factors Indian prisoners are not rehabilitated, tend to commit further crimes, and suffer higher recidivism rates, and these factors result in an unnecessary and astounding loss to the community in human resources amoung our Indian people, in terms of loss of leadership, damage to the family, and expenditures of economic resources, and

WHEREAS, although these prisoners have long been neglected by the Tribes, research is now being conducted to study the feasibility of Indian Tribes rehabilitating these prisoners on a regional basis.

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Squaxin Island Tribal Council does hereby support and urge that a priority be designated, addressing the rehabilitative needs of the large numbers of Tribal persons who are currently confined, and will be confined, in state and federal prisons.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Squaxim Island Tribal Council fully supports and adheres to the policy that Indian Tribes and people have the right and authority to rehabilitate their own people.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Squaxin Island Tribal Council supports the concept that Indian prisoners and the community can best be served by transferring Indian prisoners out of state and federal prisons into regionally located minimum security facilities which are tribally operated and administrated by qualified Indian people, for Indian people, and that a pilot project of this nature should be initiated on a selected reservation to determine the feasibility of whether such a criminal justice program can be implemented throughout Indian country on a regional basis.

CERTIFICATION

The Squaxin Island Tribal Council does hereby certify that the above resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the Squaxin Island Tribal Council, held on at which time a quorum was present and was passed by a vote of 4 for and 0 against.

Calvin J. Peters, Chairman

Bryan A. Johnson, Vice-Chairman

ATTESTED BY:

Sally A. Norman, Secretary

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