



**46<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL INDIAN AND NATIVE AMERICAN  
EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING CONFERENCE**  
Sacramento, California | June 4, 2026



**RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-01**

**Native American Employment and Training Council**

**We, the Indian and Native American Grantees of the National Indian and Native American Employment and Training Conference (NINAETC) attending the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Sacramento, California, to preserve for ourselves and our descendants rights secured under Indian Treaties and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and constitution of the United States and the several states, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Native people, to preserve Indian and Native cultural values, and otherwise promote the welfare of the Indian and Native people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution:**

**WHEREAS, the NINAETC are the representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and tribal concerns; and**

**WHEREAS, the NINAETC is a national organization comprised of American Indians, Alaskan Natives, and Native Hawaiians; and**

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

**WHEREAS, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) (Public Law 113-128) is the primary legislation governing the public workforce system in the United States; and**

**WHEREAS, Section 166 of WIOA is dedicated to supporting employment and training activities for American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian individuals to “develop more fully the academic, occupational, and literacy skills of such individuals; make [them] more competitive in the workforce and to equip them with the entrepreneurial skills necessary for successful self-employment; and promote the economic and social development of Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian communities in accordance with the goals and values of such communities”; and**

**WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 166(i)(4)(C), the purpose of the Native American Employment and Training Council (NAETC) is to advise the Secretary of Labor on the operation and administration of the Indian and Native American programs authorized under Section 166 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) serving American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians in a manner consistent with the principles of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 USC 450 et seq.) and the federal trust responsibility to Tribal Nations and the government-to-government relationship between the Federal government and Tribal governments; and**

**WHEREAS, the NAETC is established by federal law to provide advice to the Secretary of Labor on behalf of representatives of Section 166 grantees and that the Secretary shall consult with the**

entities described in subsection (c) to include Indian tribes, tribal organizations, Alaska Native entities, Indian controlled organizations serving Indians, or Native Hawaiian organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of Labor is statutorily required to consult the NAETC “to develop a set of performance indicators and standards that is in addition to the primary indicators of performance described in [WIOA] Section 116(b)(2)(A) and that shall be applicable to programs under” Section 166; and

WHEREAS, the NAETC is statutorily required to “meet not less than twice each year” (WIOA Section 166(i)(4)(F)); and

WHEREAS, the Department of Labor has not convened a meeting of the NAETC since October 2024 (more than 18 months ago), which violates WIOA’s statutory meeting requirement; and

WHEREAS, the two-year terms of all NAETC members expired in March 2026 and these members have received no formal notice from the Department of Labor regarding whether or when they will be reappointed, which has rendered the NAETC inactive in violation of federal law; and

WHEREAS, according to the Department’s NAETC charter renewed in July 2025, NAETC members “may be appointed, reappointed, or replaced, and their terms may be extended, changed, or terminated at the Secretary's discretion”; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Indian and Native American Employment and Training Conference calls on the Secretary of Labor to immediately reappoint all sitting members of the NAETC to new two-year terms to sustain it as a functioning advisory body of the Department in accordance with the NAETC charter, federal law, and the federal government’s trust and treaty obligations to Tribal Nations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Department of Labor publish in the Federal Register a binding schedule featuring at least two NAETC meetings per year for 2026, 2027, and 2028, with the first meeting occurring no later than September 1, 2026; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NINAETC until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 46<sup>th</sup> National Indian and Native American Employment and Training Conference held at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Sacramento, California, on June 1-4, 2026, with a quorum present.

  
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Kathy Atkins, Co-Chair 166

  
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Jacky England, Co-Chair 477