JULY 2004 CROW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE

JOINT ACTION RESOLUTION NO <u>JAR04-02</u>

INTRODUCED BY CARL E. VENNE, CHAIRMAN EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE CROW TRIBE

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES OF CROW TRIBAL GOVERNMENT ENTITLED:

"A JOINT RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE CROW TRIBAL GOVERNMENT TO DEVELOP A LAND ACQUISITION PROGRAM WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR."

WHEREAS, the Crow Indian Reservation consists of 2.3 million acres of which 1,151,669 acres are owned in trust status by individual Crow Indians; and

WHEREAS, approximately 250,000 acres of individually owned trust lands are owned by five or less owners in competent landownership status in accordance with the 1920 Crow Act; and

WHEREAS, lands owned by six or more owners, managed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, include 125,637 individual ownership interests indicating that a significant portion of trust lands are owned in highly fractionated interests; and

WHEREAS, individual land ownership in allotted lands is expected to continue to fractionate rendering highly fractionated parcels difficult and costly to manage; and

WHEREAS, approximately 1500 applications for patents in fee have been filed by Crow trust landowners with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the purpose of selling lands to non-Indians; and

WHEREAS, the Crow Tribal Executive Branch desires to protect its trust land base to insure its jurisdiction and sovereign authority over the majority of lands within the exterior boundaries of the Crow Reservation; and

WHEREAS, the Crow Tribal Executive Branch desires to develop comprehensive land management plans including unitization of Reservation lands, conservation and protection of trust lands in an effort to more effectively manage such lands and increase revenues generated by such lands; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Interior has expressed a desire to provide the Crow Tribe with adequate funding to implement a land acquisition program for the Crow Reservation via federal legislation; and

WHEREAS, the Crow Tribal Executive Branch has developed concepts with the Department of Interior to seek legislation that will allow the Crow Tribe to access an adequate line of credit to acquire fractionated lands from willing landowners; and

WHEREAS, the Crow Tribal Executive Branch has also sought access to funds to acquire Crow Tribal trust lands owned in competent status from willing sellers to prevent such lands from being sold to non-Indians; and

WHEREAS, the Crow Tribal Executive Branch has also proposed that sufficient funds to acquire lands from landowners owning lands in violation of Section 2 of the 1920 Crow Act; and

WHEREAS, the Crow Tribal Executive Branch has proposed that the DOI provide an annual funding stream to the Tribe to accommodate the Tribe's management of acquired lands; and.

WHEREAS, the Crow Tribal Executive Branch and the Department of Interior are currently negotiating the details of the Crow Land Acquisition Project to be finalized in federal legislation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT JOINTLY RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE BRANCHES OF THE CROW TRIBE:

That the Crow Tribal Executive Branch is authorized to continue developing the Crow Land Acquisition Project and that the final draft of developed legislation will be presented to the Crow Tribal Legislature for approval or disapproval upon its completion.

CERTIFICATION

Ιħ	ereby	y certify tha	t this Jo	oint Action I	Resolution a	uthorizing the	Executive Bra	nch to
develop a	land	acquisition	prograi	m was duly	approved by	the Crow Trib	al Legislature	with a
vote of _	13	_ in favor, _	0	opposed, an	d <u>0</u> abs	stained and tha	t a quorum wa	s present
on this	14	_ day of	July	, 2004.				
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ATTEST:

Secretary, Crow Tribal Legislature

EXECUTIVE ACTION

I hereby appr	ove, veto this Joint Action Resolution authorizing the
Executive Branch to develop	a land acquisition program, pursuant to the authority vested in the
Chairman of the Crow Tribe	by Article V, Section 8 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the
Crow Tribe of Indians, on the	nis /d/ day of <u>alu/,</u> 2004.
	and Elenne
	Carl E. Verme, Chairman
	Crow Tribal Executive Branch

Land Acquisition Program with the Dept Dept. of Interior." Executive Branch Bill or Resolution Number Jan 04-02 Date of vote: Introduced by: Representative No Abstain Yes D. Goes Ahead Cloud O. Costa Iron Plain Feather Crooked Arm Stewart L. Costa C. Goes Ahead Hogan Old Elk K. Real Bird Pease Medicine Horse Not Afraid P. Real Bird Wilson Stone Totals: Results of Vote: Tabled Veto Override Passed Not Passed Date: Signature of Officer: