## **April 2010 Regular Session of the Crow Tribal Legislature**

## Legislative Resolution No. 10-10

Introduced by Senator Oliver Half, Center Lodge District

A Legislative Resolution Titled:

### A Resolution of the Crow Tribal Legislature to Establish a Legislative Veterans' Affairs Committee

WHEREAS, the Crow Tribal Legislature ("Legislature") is authorized to adopt resolutions for the governance of the Crow Tribe of Indians pursuant to Article V, Section 2(a) of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Crow Tribe of Indians;

**WHEREAS**, in 1825 the Crow Tribe entered into a Treaty with the United States establishing friendship between the nations;

WHEREAS, the Fort Laramie Treaties of 1851 and 1868 further affirmed the peaceful nation-to-nation relationship between the United States and the Crow Tribe;

**WHEREAS**, Crow Tribal members have a long history of honorable service in the United States Armed Forces;

WHEREAS, the United States has throughout its history made efforts to honor the service of military veterans through such benefits as pensions and land grants and, whereas, in 1946 Congress established the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs and, whereas, in 1970 Congress established the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs and, whereas, in 1989 Congress established the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs as a cabinet-level department in their continuing effort to increase the government's ability to provide benefits for veterans;

**WHEREAS**, reviewing proposed laws, regulations, and intergovernmental agreements pertaining to Crow Tribal programs intended to provide services to Crow Tribal members who are military veterans is a major interest of the Legislature.

## Now, therefore, be it hereby resolved by the Crow Tribal Legislature in Regular Session:

That there is established a Veterans' Affairs Committee of the Crow Tribal Legislature, which shall be comprised of any and all interested Crow Tribal Senators;

That all rules of procedure and by-laws governing the Committee shall be those which are incorporated as an attachment to this Resolution, herein referred to as "Attachment A: Bylaws of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs";

That this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage by the Crow Tribal Legislature.

#### CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this <u>LR10 -10</u> was duly approved by the Crow Tribal Legislature with a vote of <u>17</u> in favor, <u>0</u> opposed, and <u>0</u> abstained and that a quorum was present on this <u>22<sup>nd</sup></u> day of April 2010.

Senator Patrick Alden // Speaker Pro Tempore of the House Crow Tribal Legislature

Attest:

Senator Noel Two Leggins Secretary Pro Tempore Crow Tribal Legislature



Bill or Resolution: <u>LR10-10</u> Introduced by: <u>Senator Oliver Half, Jr.</u> Date of Vote: <u>4/22/2010</u> Number

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### Attachment A:

# By-Laws of the Legislative Committee on Veterans' Affairs

### Section 1. Establishment.

In accordance with the Legislation Resolution passed in Regular Session on April 2010, the Veterans Affairs Committee ("Committee") is hereby established as a standing committee of the Crow Tribal Legislature.

#### Section 2. Membership; Advisors.

The Committee shall consist of any interested members of the Crow Tribal Legislature.

The Committee shall communicate and share information with the Executive Branch Legal Office and Legislative Branch Legal Office on matters within the Committee's authority and may request appropriate support and advice on all matters.

#### Section 3. Purposes.

The purpose of the Committee is:

- (a) To make judgments and recommendations in the establishment of policies pertaining to veterans affairs and related issues of the Crow tribal government.
- (b) To make judgments and recommendations to the Crow Tribal Legislature for the adoption of legislation designed to strengthen the development of veterans' rights, public benefits, and well-being.

### Section 4. Powers.

The Committee shall have all powers necessary and proper to carry out the purposes set forth above, including:

- (a) To review and draft regulations and policies governing the right, benefits, and well-being of veterans which may be submitted to the full Legislature.
- (b) To review all plans which require the use of Crow tribal funds and/or assets to develop priority lists for all projects funded by the Crow Tribe and/or federal funds which are intended to support the right, benefits, and well-being of veterans.
- (c) To propose or review all legislation relating to this Committee and relating to business within the Crow Tribe affecting the right, benefits, and well-

being of veterans and shall recommend the adoption or amendment of such laws to the Crow Tribal Legislature.

- (d) To receive reports from and to review the operations of all offices, divisions, departments, enterprises, committees, boards, commissions or entities having oversight or control over veterans affairs.
- (e) To maintain oversight of the functioning, excluding internal personnel and/or administrative matters, of all Crow Tribal veterans' affairs programs and services.
- (f) To hold hearings related to the functioning, excluding internal personnel and/or wholly administrative matters, of all Crow Tribal veterans' affairs programs and services.

## Section 5. Meetings.

Meetings shall be regularly scheduled.