

CENTRAL COUNCIL *Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska* Office of the President • Edward K. Thomas Building 9097 Glacier Highway • Juneau, Alaska 99801

## Executive Council of the Central Council TLINGIT & HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA

Resolution EC 22-55

Title: Endorsing Mary Peltola as Candidate for the Office of United States House of Representatives

WHEREAS, the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) is a federally recognized tribe with more than 34,000 citizens; and

WHEREAS, under Article X of the Tlingit & Haida Constitution, the Executive Council is the governing body of Tlingit & Haida when the Tribal Assembly is not in session; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Assembly is not in session; and

WHEREAS, Mary Peltola was sworn in to serve the remainder of Representative Don Young's term in the U.S. House of Representatives from Alaska's at-large congressional district on September 13, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Mary Peltola is seeking a full term to the U.S. House of Representatives in the 2022 general election; and

WHEREAS, Mary Peltola was raised in Western Alaska and has participated in the subsistence lifestyle since her early childhood; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, Mary Peltola was elected to the State of Alaska House of Representatives representing the Bethel region and served from 1999 to 2009; and

WHEREAS, as a lawmaker, Mary Peltola served as Chair of the Bush Caucus, a nonpartisan group of representatives and senators who represent rural and off-road communities in Alaska, and worked to increase funding for rural programs; and

WHEREAS, Mary Peltola helped to pass legislation and influenced budgets that benefitted rural Alaska and her record includes support for responsible resource development with local control to increase economic opportunities in rural Alaska and throughout the state; and WHEREAS, Mary Peltola has served her entire lifetime and professional career working for Alaska Natives serving as a judge on the Orutsararmiut Native Council's tribal court; the Bethel City Council; and most recently as the executive director of the Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission that advocated for the protection of salmon runs in Western Alaska;

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida recognizes and appreciates the long-standing commitment of Mary Peltola to the Alaska Native community and to the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida recognizes and appreciates that Mary Peltola has shown her commitment to increasing the standard of living for rural and Alaska Native residents, and supporting the vibrancy of Alaska Native cultures; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida recognizes and appreciates Mary Peltola's commitment throughout her lifetime through both her legislative efforts and her service on multiple Native organizations, to the Alaska Native community, and the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Mary Peltola has expressed her intent to uphold Congressman Young's legacy of bipartisanship and demonstrated this pledge in taking a significant step to do so in retaining Congressman Young's chief of staff as her own; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Mary Peltola has expressed her intent to uphold Congressman Young's legacy of bipartisanship and demonstrated this pledge in taking a significant step to do so in retaining Congressman Young's chief of staff as her own; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the significant military service of Alaska Natives, Congresswoman Peltola as one of her first actions sponsored H.R. 8888 on September 21, 2022: To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs an Office of Food Security, and for other purposes; and

WHEREAS, as she began her second week on the job, Congresswoman Peltola immediately responded to the disaster in Western Alaska and initiated efforts to urge the U.S. House to support supplemental disaster spending to help Western Alaska recover from the storm;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Tlingit & Haida hereby endorses Mary Peltola as a candidate for the office of the United States House of Representatives.

ADOPTED this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September 2022, by the Executive Council of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, by a vote of 5yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions and 1 absence.

CERTIFY

President Richard J. Peterson

ATTEST

Tribal Secretary Jacqueline L. Pata