



Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe
483 Great Neck Rd So. Mashpee, MA 02649
Phone (508) 477-0208 * Fax (508) 477-1218

2021-RES-079

**APPROVAL OF LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE
PASSAGE OF THE LUMBEE TRIBE RECOGNITION ACT**

WHEREAS, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe (the “Tribe”) is a federally-recognized Indian Tribe with a duly-enacted Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council (the “Tribal Council”), the governing body of the Tribe, deems it essential, and is empowered, under Article VI, § 2.A. of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Constitution to promote the health, morals, education, political integrity, economic security and general welfare of the members of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe secured its federal-recognition in 2007 after enduring many years of struggle with the Federal government to ensure its self-determination and sovereignty were protected; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council recognizes that other Indian tribes face similar obstacles and is aware of the Lumbee Tribe’s fight for recognition that began in the late 1880’s through the height of the Federal termination area to today;

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council recognizes that Congress imposed “dual recognition and termination” on the Lumbee and two other tribes during the termination area and has since fully restored the other tribes but has yet to offer full recognition to the Lumbee Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council acknowledges that the Department of Interior has testified in full support of the passage of this legislation at the recent Senate Indian Affairs Committee hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council desires to offer its support and urge Congress to pass the *Lumbee Tribe Recognition Act* (S. 1364 and H.R. 2758) that now sits before Congress and ensure that federal-recognition is secured for the Lumbee Tribe and its future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council desires to demonstrate its support of the passage of the *Lumbee Tribe Recognition Act* by submitting a Letter of Support to the Federal Delegation and appropriate Committees in substantively the same form as Exhibit A, attached hereto; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tribal Council hereby expresses its support for the passage of the *Lumbee Tribe Recognition Act* (S.1364 and H.R. 2758) and urges Congress to act promptly to ensure the tribe is eligible for lawful recognition under Federal law.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Tribal Council desires to authorize the Chairman of the Tribal Council, or the Tribal Council's designee, to execute the Letter of Support in substantively the same form as Exhibit A, attached hereto, and to take all necessary action in furtherance of submission of this letter to Congress.

All resolutions or parts of resolutions inconsistent with this resolution are repealed. This resolution is effective immediately and shall continue in effect pursuant to the authority vested in the Tribal Council pursuant to Article VI, §§ 2.A. and D of the Constitution of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe.

CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned Chairperson and Secretary of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council, do hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of 13 members of whom 11, constituting a quorum, were present at a special meeting thereof, duly and regularly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 1st day of December, 2021 and that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the affirmative vote of 9 members, with 0 opposing, and with 1 not voting.

DATED this 1st day of December, 2021.



Brian M. Weeden, CHAIRMAN
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council

ATTEST:



Cassie D. Jackson, SECRETARY
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council

EXHIBIT A

*The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Urges Passage of The Lumbee Tribe Recognition Act
(S.1364 and H.R. 2758)*