



Resolution # 06-01-04  
**Tsunami Preparedness Act: Senate Bill 50**

**NORTHWEST  
PORTLAND  
AREA  
INDIAN  
HEALTH  
BOARD**

Burns-Paiute Tribe  
Chehalis Tribe  
Cocur d' Alene Tribe  
Colville Tribe  
Coos, Suislaw &  
Lower Umpqua Tribe  
Coquille Tribe  
Cow Creek Tribe  
Cowlitz Tribe  
Grand Ronde Tribe  
Hoh Tribe  
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe  
Kalispel Tribe  
Klamath Tribe  
Kootenai Tribe  
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Makah Tribe  
Muckleshoot Tribe  
Nez Perce Tribe  
Nisqually Tribe  
Nooksack Tribe  
NW Band of Shoshoni Tribe  
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe  
Puyallup Tribe  
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Quinalt Tribe  
Samish Indian Nation  
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Shoalwater Bay Tribe  
Shoshone-Bannock Tribe  
Siletz Tribe  
Skokomish Tribe  
Snoqualmie Tribe  
Spokane Tribe  
Squaxin Island Tribe  
Stillaguamish Tribe  
Suquamish Tribe  
Swinomish Tribe  
Tulalip Tribe  
Umatilla Tribe  
Upper Skagit Tribe  
Warm Springs Tribe  
Yakama Nation

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**WHEREAS**, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB) is a tribal organization under P.L. 93-638 that represents forty-three Federally-recognized Indian tribes in Oregon, Washington and Idaho on health related issues; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board is dedicated to assisting and promoting the health needs and concerns of Indian people; and

**WHEREAS**, the primary goal of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board is to improve the health and quality of life of its member tribes; and

**WHEREAS**, a tsunami is a very long wavelength of water created by sudden displacement of seafloor or disruption of water by violent undersea disturbances such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides, explosions, and the impact of cosmic bodies; and

**WHEREAS**, tsunamis have caused and can cause in the future enormous loss of human life, injury, destruction of property, and economic and social disruption in coastal and island communities; and

**WHEREAS**, estimates indicate that 85% of tsunamis occur in the Pacific Ocean, which borders many Washington, Oregon, and California Indian Reservations and Alaska Native villages, as well as Hawaiian Native villages; and

**WHEREAS**, the tragic and extreme loss of life experienced by countries in the Indian Ocean following the 9.0 earthquake and resulting tsunami in that region on December 26, 2004, illustrates destructive consequences which can occur in the absence of effective tsunami warning and notification systems; and

**WHEREAS**, the "Tsunami Preparedness Act" (S. 50), passed by the Senate on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2005, authorizes and strengthens the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's tsunami detection, forecast, warning, and mitigation program for American Indian/Native communities in Alaska, Washington, Oregon, California, Hawaii and other coastlines in the United States and world; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the S.50 is:

- (1) to improve tsunami detection, forecast, warnings, notification, preparedness, and mitigation in order to protect life and property both in the United States and elsewhere in the world;
- (2) to improve and modernize the existing Pacific Tsunami Warning System in order to increase coverage, reduce false alarms and increase accuracy of forecasts and warnings, and expand detection and warning

- (3) systems to include other vulnerable States and United States Territories, including the Caribbean/Atlantic/ Gulf region;
- (4) to increase and accelerate mapping, modeling, research, assessment, education, and outreach efforts, in order to improve forecasting, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery of tsunami and related coastal hazards;
- (5) to provide technical and other assistance to speed international efforts to establish region tsunami warning systems in vulnerable areas worldwide, including the Indian Ocean; and
- (6) to improve Federal, State, and international coordination for tsunami and other coastal hazard warning and preparedness.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the NPAIHB supports the establishment of an integrated coastal vulnerability and adaptation program focused on improving the resilience of coastal communities to natural hazards and disasters that builds upon and integrates existing Tribal, Federal and State programs, and provide usable products that will improve preparedness of communities, business, and government entities to detect tsunamis.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NPAIHB supports the passage of S. 50, "Tsunami Preparedness Act" in the House of Representatives and respectfully request that the President sign this important legislation into law.

CERTIFICATION

NO. 06-01-04

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted at the regular session of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board. A quorum being established; 28 for, 0 against, 0 abstain on October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2005.

Dean Capatman Pallas  
Chairman

10/27/2005  
Date

Stella M. Washines  
Secretary