



St. Bernard Parish Council

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Guy McInnis
Councilman
at Large

George Cavignac
Councilman
at Large

Ray Lauga, Jr.
Councilman
District A

Nathan Gorbaty
Councilman
District B

Richard "Richie" Lewis
Councilman
District C

Casey W. Hunnicutt
Councilman
District D

**Manuel "Monty"
Montelongo III**
Councilman
District E

Roxanne Adams
Clerk of Council

#12

EXTRACT OF THE OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST. BERNARD, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE ST. BERNARD PARISH GOVERNMENT COMPLEX, 8201 WEST JUDGE PEREZ DRIVE, CHALMETTE, LOUISIANA ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2014 AT SEVEN O'CLOCK P.M.

On motion of Mr. Montelongo, seconded by Mr. Hunnicutt, it was moved to **adopt** the following resolution:

RESOLUTION SBPC #1202-08-14

RESOLUTION TO EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR'S PROPOSED RULE TO REFORM THE FEDERAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT PROCESS.

WHEREAS, the Department of the Interior (Department), prior to 1978, addressed requests for Tribal acknowledgement on an individual, case-by-case basis; and,

WHEREAS, in 1978, the Department established the Federal acknowledgement process (25 CFR Part 83), *Procedures for Establishing that an American Indian Group Exists as an Indian Tribe*; and,

WHEREAS, Federal acknowledgment establishes the U.S. Government as the trustee for Tribal lands and resources and makes Tribal members and governments eligible for federal budget assistance and programs; and,

WHEREAS, the Federal acknowledgment process has been the subject of more than 20 Congressional hearings and several government studies; and,

WHEREAS, these Congressional hearing and government reports found that the process can take decades to complete, cost millions of dollars, is applied inconsistently, and overly burdensome on the petitioners; and,

WHEREAS, in June 2013, the Department released a discussion draft of a proposal to reform the Federal acknowledgment process, and conducted a substantial amount of Tribal consultations and public meetings to receive public comments on the discussion draft; and

WHEREAS, during the three-month comment period the Department received approximately 2,800 comments on the discussion draft and subsequently reviewed and incorporated responses to those comments; and,



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Extract #12, continued
August 5, 2014

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WHEREAS, in May 2014, the Department published a proposed rule in the Federal Register which addresses many of the longstanding problems with the federal acknowledgement process, while maintaining a rigorous process to establish a government-to-government relationship between a petitioning tribe and the federal government.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Bernard Parish Council, on behalf of the St. Bernard Parish Government, hereby supports the Department's proposed rule to reform the Federal acknowledgment process.

The above and foregoing having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereupon resulted as follows:

YEAS: Lauga, Gorbaty, Hunnicutt, Montelongo, Cavignac

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Lewis

The Council Chair, Mr. McInnis, cast his vote as **YEA**.

And the motion was declared **adopted** on the 5th day of August, 2014.

CERTIFICATE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a motion adopted at a Regular Meeting of the Council of the Parish of St. Bernard, held at Chalmette, Louisiana, on Tuesday, August 5, 2014.

Witness my hand and the seal
of the Parish of St. Bernard on
the 5th day of August, 2014.

ROXANNE ADAMS
CLERK OF COUNCIL