

# *United Tribes of Michigan*

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*Frank Ettawageshik, Executive Director*

## **RESOLUTION # 027-04-11-2013**

### **Support for HR 1278 "The Nondisparagement of Native American Persons or Peoples in Trademark Registration Act of 2013"**

**WHEREAS**, the membership of United Tribes of Michigan (UTM) is open to all of the twelve sovereign, federally recognized tribes located in Michigan ("Michigan Tribes"); and

**WHEREAS**, UTM provides a forum for the Michigan Tribes to address issues of common concern and is committed to joining forces to advance, protect, preserve and enhance the mutual interests, treaty rights, sovereignty, and cultural way of life of the Michigan Tribes throughout the next seven generations; and

**WHEREAS**, UTM accepts the mission to engage, as a matter of mutual concern, issues that impact the health, security, safety, and general welfare of Native Americans; and

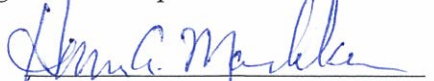
**WHEREAS**, the derogatory term "redskins" has been used to degrade and diminish Native People throughout the history of the United States. This has been documented in study after study and by the personal experiences of Native People in Indian Country and beyond. The negative effects on our children and our Native communities are long-lasting and detrimental to the positive self esteem necessary to maintain the high quality of life that is the goal of thoughtful people everywhere; and


**WHEREAS**, the term "redskins" is a part of several registered trademarks that are protected under current US Law. It is unconscionable to allow this protection under the law to continue; and

**WHEREAS**, Congressman Faleomavaega along with several original sponsors have introduced HR 1278 which would change the trademark law to disallow the use of "redskins" in a registered trademark in the United States.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the United Tribes of Michigan supports *The Nondisparagement of Native American Persons or Peoples in Trademark Registration Act of 2013* currently introduced in the US House of Representatives as HR 1278.

*Adopted by a vote of 10 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining at a meeting of the United Tribes of Michigan held on April 11, 2013, at the Pine Creek Reservation Community Center, Fulton, MI.*

  
Homer Mandoka, Vice-President

  
Chris Swartz, Secretary