



CROW TRIBE SOCIAL SERVICES
ASPAALOOKE SOCIAL & FAMILY SERVICES PROGRAM
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Frank Whiteclay Lawrence DeCrane Levi Black Eagle Channis D Whiteman
Chairman Vice Chairman Secretary Vice-Secretary

EXECUTIVE DECLARATION

WHEREAS, the Crow Tribal Executive Branch has the power and duty under Article IV, Section 3(a) 2001 Crow Constitution to represent the Crow Tribe of Indians in matters of welfare, education, recreation, social services, and economic development affecting the Crow Tribe of Indians; and

WHEREAS, the Crow Tribe is empowered to, under the Crow Constitution to promote and protect the health, peace, morals, education, and general welfare of the Crow Nation, and its people; and

WHEREAS, the Indian Law Section of the Montana Bar wishes to enact a 2025 state version of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), which was enacted in 1978 to stop the widespread removal of Indian children from their families, homes, and tribal communities; and

WHEREAS the Crow Tribal Executive Branch believes it is in the best interest of the Crow Tribes' children to be protected from harm and to prevent the unnecessary trauma that occurs when children are removed from their family, culture, and community; and

WHEREAS, the Crow Tribal Executive Branch acknowledges that tribes and tribal communities, state governments, members of Congress, national and legal organizations, and thousands of Native American individuals have supported ICWA as an essential and effective policy that protects the best interests of Native American children; and

NOW, THEREFORE IT BE DECLARED, the Crow Tribe, through the Crow Tribal Executive Branch supports the legislation of the Montana Indian Child Welfare Act, to preserve for the Crow Tribe and our descendants the inherent sovereign rights of our nations, to preserve cultural values, and to promote stable placements for Crow children in loving, permanent homes, connected to their families and our culture.

Crow Tribal Chairman