## NATIVE AMERICAN CHURCH OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON PO BOX 218

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Native American Church of North America. Jon Brady, President PO Box 1424 New Town, ND 58763

Dear Mr. Brady,

The wisdom of the ages speaks of our ancestral and legendary knowledge intergenerationally transferred to us from time immemorial. Such wisdom has not even one word of legalese. Rather, the Laws of Nature reigned supreme and the only appeal that could be made was to the Divine Creator. The Spirit, Water, Earth and Light were primeval laws that predate all other laws. From those laws came our perfect medicine. The human laws came with all the frailties we suffer from today.

Prior to the waves of immigrants, natives were humble but proud. It was humility that allowed us to keep the medicine pure. We did not need any written or prescribed laws with enforcement officers pretending to protect rights. It was our own self-regulation that kept order and justice in our ceremonies. It was our own preservation by adherence to natural growth versus human propagation or cultivation that kept our medicine in abundance and readily accessible. The nonnatives who today profess knowledge are poorly informed by their own education. They endanger the sacredness of our medicine and are the very ones who invite political debates about who is sanctimonious as they charge natives with being holier than thou.

The medicine awakens our dormant memory with comfort and healing. Our memories go back into antiquity as we recall our ancestral teachings and recount our legendary affiliation with the medicines, foods, terrestrial, celestial and aquatic non-human brothers and sisters. The immigrants know nothing of these stories and the morals that guide us to the good life. We do not need any stimulant. The medicine combines with our spirit and elicits prayer and song. The immigrants do not have such a spirit.

Immigration brought poor manners, pestilence, ignorance and politics. Their cranial superficiality stems from a manufactured feeling. The immigrants want and need that fake spirituality and want desperately to invoke that same feeling upon unsuspecting and weak

spirited natives. They believe that generations of writing can inform them of the world and how to treat humans. Natives know it is not about chronology. Time passage brought immigrants in native clothing. Immigrant laws pale vis-à-vis the Laws of Nature from where our medicine originates. Immigrant law evaporates before the light of native culture. Native culture is highly prized, and some natives are willing to sell it. The free market is now filled with native inspired clothing, ceremonial regalia, music and writing. Native songs can be heard over the electronic waves of all media, something our elders told us not to do.

Lastly, immigrants brought the English language. They define civilization as when recorded history started. Natives conversely do not accept non-civilization but accept culturalization which is herstory. Herstory is of Mother Earth, who gifted us with our homes, foods, medicines and seasons. History is for the vain who flatter themselves with flowery words. Herstory is for the humble.

We have no need of any White Man in our Peyote Ceremony. He and his laws should never intrude, interfere or intercede in Native American rights. Decriminalization is abhorrent as pronounced by all the immigrants.

Respectfully,

Ted Strong, President

Cc: Delano Saluskin, Vice-President; Arlen Washines, Secretary-Treasurer