



### **In Support of Federal Recognition of the Fernandño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians**

WHEREAS; the Fernandño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians (FTBMI), a state-recognized sovereign Indian nation of 900 citizens located in Los Angeles County, traces its origins in the Southern California region to well before the Spanish Empire’s imposition of the Mission system, which enslaved indigenous people (from at least 26 named Native settlements) at Mission San Fernando after 1797 — refusing to be nullified or eradicated, the present-day FTBMI, which descends from the historical community of Fernandño Indians, is a vibrant, voluntary village community, composed of a coalition of three lineage communities that retains the integrity of each constituent lineage community; and

WHEREAS; FTBMI is seeking Federal Recognition, a status that has long proved elusive due to California’s history of church and state racism, indifference, greed and hostility — centuries of systemic attempts at rendering invisible the actuality of indigenous people are costing FTBMI an estimated \$18-26 million annually in resources available to certified Native entities, including access to crucial services, grants, business opportunities, and cultural and artistic celebration — with those lost business opportunities also meaning less tax revenue for any relevant governmental jurisdiction — but now a formal process, lasting several years to date and in its second phase, may result in recognition being granted; and

WHEREAS; among the many already supporting the FTBMI’s Federal Acknowledgment Petition seeking federal recognition are State Senators Ben Allen, Steven Bradford, Maria Elena Durazo, Holly Mitchell, Anthony Portantino, Susan Rubio and Henry Stern; Assembly Members Richard Bloom, Ian Calderon, Autumn Burke, Ed Chau, Laura Friedman, Mike Gipson, Chris Holden, Reggie Jones-Sawyer, Adrin Nazarian, Luz Rivas, Blanca Rubio, Miguel Santiago and Christy Smith; the Los Angeles Community College Board of Trustees; the Cities of Glendale, Los Angeles, Palmdale, San Fernando, Santa Clarita and Simi Valley; and the County of Los Angeles; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Los Angeles County Democratic Party urges, through adoption of this resolution, the Office of Federal Acknowledgement — Office of the Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior — to grant the Fernandño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians Federal Acknowledgment Petition; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Los Angeles County Democratic Party, upon approval of this resolution, respectfully requests that the California Democratic Party approve and adopt the sentiments and text of this resolution.

Authored/Submitted by:  
Renee Nahum, AD43  
Paul Michael Neuman AD 43  
Mark Ramos AD41