To: Subject:

RE: ICWA;

Please except and put this into the packet at the next soup meeting under comments on non-agenda items. Pre thanks for your help.

Public Commen

A concerned Citizen. Kent Sawatzky

From: Kent Sawatzky <<u>kentsawatzky@hotmail.com</u>> Sent: Thursday, January 9, 2025 6:19 AM To: <u>kentsawatzky@homail.com</u> <<u>kentsawatzky@homail.com</u>> Subject: ICWA;

It is my understanding that ICWA is the following;

That ICWA is the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978.

That it is a United States Federal Law that governs jurisdiction over the removal of American Indian Children from their families.

That it is to protect the best interest of Indian Children,

That Indian Children are a protected class under ICWA.

That Humboldt County has an obligation to contact the protected Childs Tribe, notifying them of any potential removal of a Child from the care of a Tribal Parent.

That Humbold County has an obligation to provide the Tribe of the Childs parent all relevant information that the Tribe may deem necessary to protect the Indian Child.

That Humboldt County is required to do so immediately upon the assertion of a tribal member parent that the child may be protected by ICWA.

That Humboldt County is required under a California State legal decree to abide by ICWA.

That Humboldt County is in violation of multiple Federal and State requirements regarding ICWA in Multiple cases currently being handled by Humboldt County DHHS, CWS division.

This is of great concern to myself and the Public who support ICWA, the Tribes rights, and the need to protect the rights under ICWA of indigenous /Indian Children and their parents.

There is major concern that violating ICWA in such a blatant manor may necessitate Humboldt County DHHS being placed into a conservatorship of the Federal and/or State government.

There is major concern that the lack of ability to use State and Federal funding in a legal manner may result in said funding being discontinued, or even clawed back.

DHHS and CWS have an obligation to adhere to ICWA. They are not. A concerned Citizen Kent Sawatzky