**Request for BYM to Adopt a Proposal for** Reparations to the Pawnee Nation **by the Indigenous Affairs Committee**

Summary: The history of Baltimore Yearly meeting (BYM) is linked to that of the Pawnee Nation. Friends from BYM established a school for Pawnee children. One purpose of the school was assimilating Pawnee children into the dominant white, Eurocentric culture of the U.S. Part of the educational process was teaching them English, resulting in the near extinction of their Native language. We have the opportunity to provide a measure of restorative justice by providing funds to the Pawnee Nation’s language program. We are following a spiritual leading in submitting this request. We deeply believe it is the right thing to do.

Proposal:

BYM will commit $10,000 each year for 2024 and 2025 to the Pawnee Nation’s language restoration program as direct reparations to a group harmed by ancestral members of BYM. These reparations would be limited to two years, with no further donations planned. After that, we will proceed as way opens.

Reparations are actions pursued because of harms done and are intended to help right injustice. Because of this causality, it is not truly a gift or donation. Reparations should be used as the *beneficiary* decides to use them.

Submitted to Indigenous Affairs Committee Baltimore Yearly of the Religious Society of Friends for consideration during Annual Session 2024. Supported by the BYM Reparations Action Working group and several Meetings