



The Federal Monitor

The Federal Monitor

News of Issues Affecting Tribes and Tribal Housing Programs

Volume 8, No. 2
June 24, 2008

A publication of
the NATIONAL
AMERICAN
INDIAN
HOUSING
COUNCIL

National American Indian Housing Council

NAIHC, a not-for-profit organization, assists tribes and tribal housing entities in reaching their goal of providing culturally relevant, decent, safe, sanitary and quality affordable housing for Native people in Indian communities, Alaska Native Villages and Native Hawaiian Homelands.

Office of Governmental Affairs

50 F Street NW
Suite 3300
Washington DC
20001

Ph: (202) 789-1754
Fax: (202) 789-1758

Wendy Helgemo
Director

www.naihc.net

DC ABUZZ FROM VISITS FROM INDIAN COUNTRY

Tribal leaders were in town last week to make a last push on pending legislation in the 110th Congress. Among them were Marty Shuravloff, Chairman of the NAIHC Board of Directors to push for final passage of NAHASDA. This timing is critical in light of heading into two more recesses in July and August and the abbreviated congressional calendar due to the election year.

The Chairman appeared in the Capitol at the invitation of the Democratic Steering and Outreach Committee. Here he spoke on the need to reauthorize NAHASDA, the single-most important housing legislation for Indian people, which remains the top priority of the NAIHC Membership. See his remarks at www.naihc.net.

Chairman Shuravloff also made his rounds on the Hill on the House and Senate sides and, of course, on both sides of the aisle. Meetings went well as Members remain committed to getting NAHASDA to the President's desk soon.

NAHASDA UPDATE

On May 22, 2008, the full Senate unanimously passed S.2062 – the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Reauthorization Act of 2007. Several changes were made including removing NAIHC language and the methamphetamine forfeiture provision and limiting the Title VI demonstration project to 4 tribes per HUD Region. See the new bill language at www.naihc.net.

APPROPRIATIONS UPDATE

The U.S. House Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Appropriations Sub-Committee marked up its FY 2009 bill on June 20, 2008. The full House Appropriations Committee will mark up the THUD spending bill on June 26, 2008. The Senate THUD Appropriations Sub-Committee will mark up its bill immediately after the Fourth of July recess. The numbers have not been made public yet. You can look for more on www.thomas.gov under Appropriations Bills.

OTHER NEWS

Chairman Marty Shuravloff submitted testimony to the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs for the Oversight Hearing on Predatory Lending in Indian Country. See the testimony at www.naihc.net. For more on the hearing, go to www.indian.senate.gov and click on June 5, 2008.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

This year's Legal Symposium will be held December 9-11, 2008, at the Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino. The Legislative Committee will meet December 9, 2008. See the calendar at www.naihc.net.