



"A Tradition of Native American Housing"

**NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN HOUSING COUNCIL
RESOLUTION #2008-05**

**A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR NATIVE AMERICAN
HOUSING PROGRAMS**

WHEREAS, the National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC) represents the housing interests of American Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages and more than 266 tribally designated housing entities; and

WHEREAS, the stated purpose of the organization is to promote advocacy for policy and legislative changes that will favorably impact our primary goals of providing safe, decent, and affordable housing for Indian people in a manner recognizing the unique government-to-government relationship of tribes and the federal government; and

WHEREAS, Congress recognized the need for housing assistance and economic development in Indian Country when it passed the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA), as amended; and

WHEREAS, the Indian Housing Block Grant should be funded at \$789 million just to keep pace with inflation since the program was funded at \$650 million in fiscal year (FY) 2002, yet all indications are that at least \$1 billion is needed to meet tribal housing needs nationally; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2009 President's Budget Request proposed a reduction of the Indian Housing Block Grant from \$630 million as enacted in FY 2008 to \$627 million in FY 2009; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2009 President's Budget Request proposed for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development a budget that includes a significant reduction for the Indian Community Development Block Grant and elimination of funding for Rural Housing and Economic Development, programs that are vitally important to tribal housing programs; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2009 President's Budget Request proposed a reduction in funding for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service Sanitations Facilities Construction Program, an infrastructure program vital to the health and well-being of our people; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2009 President's Budget Request proposed a reduction of the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant from \$9 million as enacted in FY 2008 to \$5.9 million in FY 2009, but should be funded at \$10 million to be commensurate with funding levels in the past; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2009 President's Budget Request proposed complete elimination of funding for programs vital to tribal housing programs, such as the Bureau of Indian Affairs Housing Improvement Program and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's direct loan programs for single and multi-families; and

WHEREAS, Indian Country sorely needs these programs fully funded to support the development of affordable housing for American Indians and Alaska Natives who face some of the most deplorable housing and living conditions in the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the National American Indian Housing Council does hereby urge Congress to reverse cuts and the elimination of funding for Native American housing programs that are so vital within the:

- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development,
- U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs,
- U.S. Department of Agriculture,
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National American Indian Housing Council, with its entire membership, requests an increase of funding from Congress to at least keep pace with inflation from FY 2002 funding levels and also increased levels of funding for tribal housing programs to a level commensurate with the \$1 billion need.

CERTIFICATION

As the duly appointed Secretary for the National American Indian Housing Council, I hereby certify that Resolution #2008-05, was adopted at NAIHC's 34th Annual Business Meeting in Seattle, Washington on May 14, 2008, with a quorum present.



Marty Shuravloff, Chairman



Jason Adams, Secretary