



"A Tradition of Native American Housing"

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING PROGRAMS

Resolution 2010-03

- WHEREAS,** The National American Indian Housing Council represents the housing interests of American Indian tribes, Alaska Native villages, and native Hawaiians, including approximately 272 tribes and tribally designated housing entities (TDHEs) that provide housing services to approximately 450 American Indian tribes, Alaska Natives, and native Hawaiians; and
- WHEREAS,** The stated purpose of the organization is to promote advocacy for policy and legislative changes that will favorably impact our primary goal of providing culturally relevant and quality affordable housing for native people in a manner that recognizes 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); and
- WHEREAS,** The Government Accountability Office (GAO) recently completed a study (GAO-10-326) which surveyed TDHEs on the effectiveness of NAHASDA and the results of that survey reflected that NAHASDA has been an effective tool in providing affordable housing to Native Americans and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) and was only critical regarding the coordination of infrastructure programs between federal agencies; and
- WHEREAS,** Housing conditions and the availability of housing in Indian Country fall far below those of the general United States population; and,
- WHEREAS,** According to the 2000 United States Census, nearly 12 percent of Native American households lack plumbing compared to 1.2 percent of the general United States population; and,
- WHEREAS,** Indian households are nearly three times more likely to be severely overcrowded than non-Indian households; and,

WHEREAS, The President's FY2011 Budget Request seeks \$580 million for the Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) Program, which provides the bulk of funding for Indian housing; and that level is 17% less than the level enacted for FY2010; and,

WHEREAS, The President's FY2011 Budget Request for the IHBG program represents the lowest single-year funding amount since the NAHASDA became law in 1996 and was funded in 1998; and,

WHEREAS, The Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) program funds essential infrastructure for tribal communities, including sewer and running water; and,

WHEREAS, Rising costs and associated inflationary factors have hampered the development of infrastructure in Indian Country; and,

WHEREAS, The National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC) provides an on-site Training and Technical Assistance (T&TA) Program, which enables tribes to effectively manage and carry out Indian housing activities by providing quality on-site training and technical assistance; and,

WHEREAS, The President's FY2011 Budget Request did not include funding for the NAIHC T&TA Program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the National American Indian Housing Council strongly urges the Congress of the United States to:

- (1) Fund the IHBG Program at \$875 million;**
- (2) Fund the ICDBG Program at \$100 million; and,**
- (3) Fund the NAIHC T&TA Program at \$4.8 million.**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National American Indian Housing Council respectfully requests that the National Congress of American Indians and all other regional Native American associations and organizations join the NAIHC in supporting this resolution.

CERTIFICATION

As the duly appointed Secretary for the National American Indian Housing Council, I hereby certify that Resolution 2010-03, was adopted at NAIHC's 36th Annual Business Meeting in Minneapolis, MN, on May 27, 2010, with a quorum present and by a supermajority of the vote.

Cheryl A. Causley

CHERYL A. CAUSLEY, CHAIR

Susie Hay

SUSIE HAY, SECRETARY