



"A Tradition of Native American Housing"

NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN HOUSING COUNCIL
Resolution Number #2006-19

A resolution in support of each individual Sovereign Tribal Government exercising Self Determination regarding selection of formula distribution counting methodology

- WHEREAS, the National American Indian Housing Council represents the housing interests of American Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages and more than 281 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, the Southern Plains Indian Housing Association (SPIHA) represents Tribes and/or their tribally designated housing entities located within the National American Indian Housing Council's Region IV; and
- WHEREAS, this NAIHC Region IV resolution as submitted is intended to recognize and be consistent with each individual Tribe's Sovereign Right to Self Determination. To achieve this, the proposed position is that each individual Sovereign Tribal government exercise its own Self Determination by identifying and selecting to utilize, for formula distribution purposes, the data set that they have determined most accurately reflects the Tribal population in their area; and
- WHEREAS, it is evident that different Sovereign Nations believe different data sets more accurately reflect Tribal populations in their areas. For example, many Tribes believe that census data reflecting single American Indian Alaska Native (AIAN) respondents are more representative of their area, while others believe census data that includes AIAN plus one or more other race respondents best represents their population; and
- WHEREAS, other Sovereign Nations believe their enrollment is the best count method available in their area. While yet even others have determined to utilize other various methodologies such as balance of county census counts and Tribally conducted surveys etc.; and
- WHEREAS, while there are no perfect methodologies, it should be recognized that it is the Sovereign right and responsibility to each Tribal government to exercise Self Determination to identify and select the least flawed and most accurate methodology that reflects the Tribal population of their area; and

WHEREAS, each Tribal government has the opportunity and obligation to engage in direct government to government consultation and or negotiation with the Federal Government to substantiate the validity of the data set the Tribe has determined to utilize; and

WHEREAS, not only is it impractical to impose a certain prescribed methodology or exclude alternative methodologies for uniquely different Sovereign Nations, it is inconsistent with Tribal Self Determination.

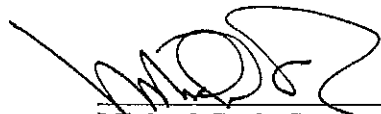
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the National American Indian Housing Council hereby supports the proposed position that each individual Sovereign Tribal government exercise its own Self Determination by identifying and selecting to utilize a validated data set that they have determined most accurately reflects the Tribal population in their area for formula distribution purposes.

CERTIFICATION

As the duly appointed Secretary for the National American Indian Housing Council, I hereby certify that Resolution #2006-19 was adopted at a Special Meeting of the NAIHC Membership in Las Vegas, Nevada on December 7, 2006 with a quorum present.



Marty Shuravloff, Chairman



Michael Cook, Secretary