



## **2013 Mid-Year Convention Airway Heights, Washington**

### **RESOLUTION #13 - 02**

“A Resolution Supporting Increased Appropriations for the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act (NAHASDA) Block Grant with a Specific Line Item for Training and Technical Assistance for a National Organization Representing Native American Housing Interests.”

### **PREAMBLE**

We the members of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants rights secured under Indian Treaties, Executive Orders, and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and constitution of the United States and several states, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise to promote the welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) are representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and specific tribal concerns; and

**WHEREAS**, ATNI is a regional organization comprised of American Indians/Alaska Natives and tribes in the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Nevada, Northern California, and Alaska; and

**WHEREAS**, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of the ATNI; and

**WHEREAS,** The Northwest Indian Housing Association (NWIHA) represents thirty-eight Indian Housing Authorities, Tribally Designated Housing Entities, and Tribal Housing Programs and Departments in Idaho, Oregon and Washington, and Annette Island, Alaska; and,

**WHEREAS,** The Mission of NWIHA is to promote safe, sanitary, decent and affordable housing for Tribal members in the Pacific Northwest, which it accomplishes by providing training and education opportunities; providing a forum for the discussion and resolution of issues; advocating for the collective benefit of all members; effectively linking members to information and financial resources; and working collaboratively with its industry partners; and,

**WHEREAS,** NWIHA is represented at ATNI through ATNI's Housing Committee; and,

**WHEREAS,** Housing conditions and the availability of housing in Indian country fall far below those of the general US population; and,

**WHEREAS,** Indian households are nearly three times more likely to be severely overcrowded; and,

**WHEREAS,** The President's FY 2013 budget requests \$650 million for the Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) Program, which provides the bulk of funding for Indian housing, which amount represents a zero increase from the past several years and, taking inflation into account, represents a decrease in funding in real dollars; 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 its on-site Training and Technical Assistance (T&TA) Program which enables Tribes to effectively manage and carry out Indian housing activities by providing such on-site training and technical assistance; and,

**WHEREAS,** The President's FY 2014 budget request zeroed out funding for NAIHC T&TA Program.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians joins with the Northwest Indian Housing Association to strongly urge the Congress of the United States to:

- (1) Fund the IHBG Program for FY 2014 at \$875 million (the amount necessary to keep minimal pace with inflation);
- (2) Include a line item within the IHBG appropriation for FY 2014 to fund a T&TA Program at \$4.0 million, with the funding to go to "a national organization representing Native American housing interests," with a proviso that the organization may not expend more than 30% of that amount for administration and planning expenses.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED,** the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians respectfully requests the National American Indian Housing Council, the National Congress of American Indians, and all other regional Native American associations and organizations join NWIHA in supporting this Resolution.

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2013 Mid-Year Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at Northern Quest Resort Casino, Airway Heights, Washington on May 13 – 16, 2013 with a quorum present.

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Fawn Sharp, President

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Norma Jean Louie, Secretary