



## Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians

### 2008 Winter Conference Yakima, Washington

#### RESOLUTION #08 - 23

#### "SUPPORT OF UTILIZING TRIBAL ENROLLMENT RECORDS FOR ALLOCATING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FEDERAL GRANTS"

#### 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 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 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**, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians is a regional organization comprised of American Indians 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 Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northwest Indian Housing Association (NWIHA) represents thirty-six Indian Housing Authorities and Tribally Designated Housing Entities 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**, the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA), P.L.104-330, was passed by the United States Congress to provide low income housing for Indian families and recognized the right of tribal self-determination; and

**WHEREAS**, the Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) program is a key element for funding tribal housing programs under NAHASDA; and

**WHEREAS**, the definition of an Indian and an Indian Tribe is clearly defined within NAHASDA:

Section 4, paragraph (9), "INDIAN- The term 'Indian' means any person who is a member of an Indian tribe."

Section 4, paragraph (12)(A), "IN GENERAL- The term 'Indian Tribe' means a tribe that is a federally recognized tribe or a State recognized tribe."; and

**WHEREAS**, persons identifying as "Multi-Race" for the purposes of the Census do not meet the definition of "Indian" under NAHASDA; and

**WHEREAS**, federal and state recognized tribes maintain enrollment rolls or other records which clearly delineate the blood quantum and enrollment requirements for their membership; now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians joins the Northwest Indian Housing Association in demanding that HUD utilize Tribal Enrollment Records in the formula calculations for Indian Housing Block Grant funding allocation purposes as required under NAHASDA; and

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians joins the Northwest Indian Housing Association in requesting the National Congress of American Indians and all other regional Native American associations and organizations to join in advocating aggressively to require that federal agencies immediately cease the practice of using Multi-Race data collected for US Census purposes for allocating appropriations under all federal programs.

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2008 Winter Conference of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Yakima Convention Center, Yakima, Washington on January 25, 2008, with a quorum present.

*Ernest L. Stensgar*

Ernest L. Stensgar, President

*Norma Jean Louie*

Norma Jean Louie, Secretary