



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #ABQ-03-011

Title: Supporting the Amendment of the Home Investment Partnership Act that Would Clarify the Ability of Organizations Located Within Indian Reservations to Access HOME Funds for the Purposes of Housing Development

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WHEREAS, we, the members of the National Congress of American 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 the inherent sovereign rights of our Indian nations, rights secured under Indian treaties and agreements with the United States, and all other rights and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and Constitution of the United States, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise promote the health, safety and welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution; and

WHEREAS, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) was established in 1944 and is the oldest and largest national organization of American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments; and

WHEREAS, the Home Investment Partnership Act provides funds to states to meet the need for low-income housing in the in the state which utilizes a formula that includes the needs of people living within tribal jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, within several states, such as South Dakota, a prohibition has been placed on the accessibility Home Investment Partnership funds for any project located within tribal jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, an example of the problem that exists in South Dakota is Oti Kaga Incorporated, a non-profit Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) which has been prohibited from applying for funds even though 15% of Home Investment Partnership funds are set aside for CHDO; and

WHEREAS, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe and other tribes and organizations are currently in litigation to provide relief from this prohibition; and

WHEREAS, several states are closely monitoring the situation in South Dakota with the potential threat that they may apply the same prohibition on tribal jurisdictions within their state.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby support efforts of the National American Indian Housing Council and other housing organizations that desire access to Home Investment Partnership Funds.

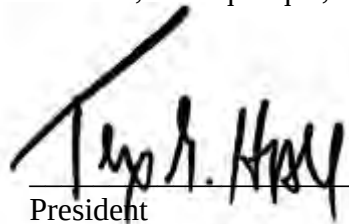
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI supports the efforts of the National American Indian Housing Council to amend the Home Investment Partnership act to clarify the utilization of HOME funds by organizations located on Indian reservations by amending the Home Investment Partnership Act with the following language:

“States may not exclude CHDOs and other non-governmental entities, Tribes and TDHEs from applying for HOME funds solely because the project is constructed within a tribal jurisdiction.”

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

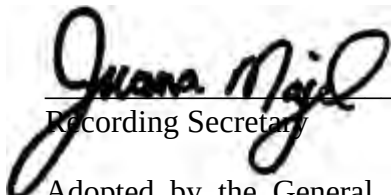
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 60th Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Albuquerque Convention Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico, on November 21, 2003 with a quorum present.



President

ATTEST:



Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during 60th Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, from November 17-21, 2003.