

**A resolution urging HUD and the Congress of the United States to include Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities in the Section 8 housing voucher program to provide rental assistance**

RESOLUTION #2016 – 03

WHEREAS, The National American Indian Housing Council represents the housing interests of American Indian tribes, Alaska Native villages, and native Hawaiian Home Lands and more than 277 tribally designated housing entities providing housing services to approximately 466 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 goals of providing culturally relevant and quality affordable housing for Native people in a manner recognizing the unique government-to-government relationship of tribes and the federal government; 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, Tribally Designated Housing Entities “TDHEs” and Tribal Housing Departments have developed in excess of $1 billion in Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) and other projects in Indian Country; and

WHEREAS, Unlike public housing agencies, Tribes have not been eligible to apply for Section 8 rental assistance housing vouchers since the implementation of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self- Determination Act (NAHASDA); and

WHEREAS, NAHASDA does not provide for additional rental assistance funding such as Section 8 when Tribes develop and administer LIHTC units; and

WHEREAS, For example, Tribes subsidize LIHTC developments with rental assistance from the Indian Housing Block Grant which has a significant impact on Tribes ability to utilize its NAHASDA grant for other purposes; and

WHEREAS, Nothing in this resolution shall be construed to support changing Formula Current Assisted Stock funded pursuant to Subpart D of 24 CFR 1000.

 **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the National American Indian Housing**

**Council does hereby join the Northwest Indian Housing Association to urge HUD and the Congress of the United States to include Tribes in the Section 8 rental assistance program; and**

 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National American Indian Housing Council does hereby respectfully request the National Congress of American Indians and all other regional Native American associations and organizations to join with NWIHA in supporting this Resolution.**

**C E R T I F I C A T I O N**

**As the duty appointed Secretary for the National American Indian Housing Council, I hereby certify that Resolution #2016-03 was adopted May 11, 2016 at NAIHC’s Annual Members Meeting in Honolulu, HI, with a quorum present and by a supermajority of the vote.**

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**Sami Jo Difuntorum, Chair Floyd Tortalita, Secretary**