

Resolution #2025-05

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE RURAL HOUSING SERVICE REFORM ACT

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 265 tribally designated housing entities providing housing services to approximately 464 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 United States Congress recognized the need for housing assistance and economic development in Indian Country when it passed the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA) as amended; and

WHEREAS, Native communities often face limited access to U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) rural housing programs due to administrative hurdles, eligibility restrictions, and a lack of Tribal consultation, which has led to underutilization of critical housing resources in Indian Country; and

WHEREAS, the Rural Housing Service Reform Act would strengthen Tribal access to USDA housing programs by streamlining application processes, increasing flexibility for Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs), and ensuring Tribal voices are included in policy development—ultimately supporting the development and preservation of affordable housing in rural Native communities; and

WHEREAS, NAIHC member tribally designated housing entities would benefit from these much-needed improvements to USDA housing programs.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the National American Indian Housing Council does hereby urge Congress to pass the Rural Housing Service Reform Act

Co-sponsored by: Cheyenne River Housing Authority on behalf of UNAHA and Siletz Tribal Housing Department on behalf of NWIHA