



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution ECWS-10-001

TITLE: TO OPPOSE BUDGET CUTS AND SUPPORT FUNDING FOR NAHASDA AT NOT LESS THAN \$874M FOR FY 2011

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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 Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) provides essential funding to NCAI Member Tribes for development and operation of affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, federal appropriations for NAHASDA have steadily increased during the law's thirteen-year history and the appropriation for FY 2010 is at a historically high level of \$700 million; and

WHEREAS, NCAI Member Tribes have timely and successfully expended housing and other funds received under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) which in turn has helped accomplish the joint goal of Tribes and the Federal Government of rebuilding the national economy; and

WHEREAS, the President has made a budget proposal that would fund NAHASDA at a historically low level of merely \$580 million for FY 2011 and would freeze at that level for at least three successive fiscal years; and

WHEREAS, the President's proposed 18% reduction in NAHASDA would virtually eliminate any gains realized by Tribes under ARRA and would do further severe damage to numerous tribal economies as well as the national economy;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby oppose the President's proposed budget figure for FY 2011 and does hereby support and will actively advocate for at every opportunity the funding of the Native American Housing and Self-Determination Act at a level of no less than \$874 million for FY 2011 and successive fiscal years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI through the end of Fiscal Year 2014