



National Congress of American Indians

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# Action Alert

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## Indian Housing and the FY06 TTHUD Appropriations Bill

Last week, the U.S. House of Representatives approved H.R. 3058, the FY06 Transportation, Treasury, HUD, the Judiciary, District of Columbia and Independent Agencies (THUD) appropriations bill. Most of the federal Indian housing funds and housing related accounts are contained in this bill.

Unfortunately, the House bill contains drastic reductions to Indian housing programs. Both the President's Budget request and the House bill call for funding from the Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) to come out of the Native American Housing Block Grant (NAHBG), which would result in funding for the NAHBG to be even lower than it appears. The funding reductions in the House bill, together with the inclusion of the ICDBG in the NAHBG, will result in tangible cuts to Indian housing programs nationwide.

**The Senate THUD Appropriations Subcommittee will mark-up its version of the THUD appropriations bill next Thursday, July 14th.** NCAI seeks your support in contacting members of the Senate Subcommittee and urging their assistance to secure the following in the Senate THUD bill:

1. an increase in funding in the bill over House levels for the NAHBG to **\$723 million**, which would include funding for the various set asides as in past years but would not include funding for the ICDBG funds; and
2. that the Subcommittee retain the authority and funding for the Indian Community Development Block Grant in the Community Development Block Grant program where it has traditionally been, and to fund the ICDBG at **\$68 million**, which was last year's funding level.

Attached to this alert is a complete list of the Senate THUD Subcommittee members, together with their phone and fax numbers. **At this point, we urge tribes to focus their advocacy efforts on Subcommittee Chairman Christopher Bond and Ranking Member Patty Murray, as well as Senators Dorgan, Domenici, Stevens, Burns, Brownback and Kohl.**

Federal support for Indian housing has never matched the needs of Indian communities and since FY98 appropriated funds for these programs have fallen woefully short. NCAI appreciates the tribes' support to help reverse this trend and to ensure that Indian housing funding in the FY06 THUD appropriations bill is closer to Indian country's needs.

For additional information, please contact Gwen Salt (gsalt@ncai.org) or Amber Ebarb (aebarb@ncai.org) or call NCAI at 202-466-7767.

# Members of the Senate THUD Appropriations Subcommittee

## Republicans

**Christopher Bond, Chairman (MO)**  
Phone (Committee): 202-224-5310  
Fax (Committee): 202-224-4401

Ted Stevens (AK)  
Phone: 202-224-3004  
Fax: 202-224-2354

Pete Domenici (NM)  
Phone: 202-224-6621  
Fax: 202-228-3261

Conrad Burns (MT)  
Phone: 202-224-2644  
Fax: 202-224-8594

Sam Brownback (KS)  
Phone: 202-224-6521  
Fax: 202-228-1265

Richard Shelby (AL)  
Phone: 202-224-5744  
Fax: 202-224-3416

Arlen Specter (PA)  
Phone: 202-224-4254  
Fax: 202-228-1229

Mike DeWine (OH)  
Phone: 202-224-2315  
Fax: 202-224-6519

Robert Bennett (UT)  
Phone: 202-224-5444  
Fax: 202-228-1168

Kay Bailey Hutchinson (TX)  
Phone: 202-224-5922  
Fax: 202-224-0776

## Democrats

**Patty Murray, Ranking Member (WA)**  
Phone (Committee): 202-224-7821  
Fax (Committee): 202-228-0249

Byron Dorgan (ND)  
Phone: 202-224-2551  
Fax : 202-224-1193

Robert Byrd (WV)  
Phone: 202-224-3954  
Fax : 202-228-0002

Barbara Mikulski (MD)  
Phone: 202-224-4654  
Fax : 202-224-8858

Harry Reid (NV)  
Phone: 202-224-3542  
Fax : 202-224-7327

Herbert Kohl (WI)  
Phone: 202-224-5653  
Fax : 202-224-9787

Richard Durbin (IL)  
Phone: 202-224-2152  
Fax : 202-228-0400

Patrick Leahy (VT)  
Phone: 202-224-4242  
Fax : 202-224-3479

Tom Harkin (IA)  
Phone: 202-224-3254  
Fax : 202-224-9369