



CENTRAL COUNCIL
Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
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CENTRAL COUNCIL OF TLINGIT AND HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA
Seventy-Ninth Annual Tribal Assembly
April 9-12, 2014
Juneau, Alaska

Resolution TA/ 14-23

Title: Support for Indian Veterans Housing Rental Assistance Demonstration Program

By: Juneau Tlingit and Haida Community Council

WHEREAS, the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Central Council) is a federally recognized tribe with more than 29,000 tribal citizens; and

WHEREAS, tribal nations continue to suffer from a lack of affordable and safe housing as well as adverse living conditions in existing homes in the United States (U.S.); and

WHEREAS, over the last 90 years American Indians and Alaska Natives have volunteered to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces at a higher rate than any other ethnic group in the country and many have paid the ultimate sacrifice for their effort; and

WHEREAS, many more military veterans have returned home to their tribal nations and faced numerous challenges in obtaining housing; and

WHEREAS, preventing and ending homelessness among veterans by 2015 is a national priority that the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and its federal partners, including the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH), have taken decisive action to achieve; and

WHEREAS, the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) expired in October 2013 and needs to be reauthorized; and

WHEREAS, the HUD-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program provides rental assistance for homeless veterans by combining Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV) to homeless Veterans and providing clinical services. The VA provides these services for participating veterans at VA medical centers (VAMCs) and community-based outreach clinics; and

WHEREAS, the HUD-VASH program currently does not include Tribal lands and Alaskan Native communities so that rental assistance can be administered to homeless Indian Veterans residing on tribal lands and Alaskan Native Communities; and

WHEREAS, the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs included the Indian Veterans Housing Rental Assistance Demonstration Program in the reauthorization of the Native American Housing and Self-Determination Act.

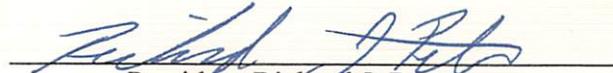
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Seventy-Ninth Tribal Assembly of Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska delegation convened in Juneau, Alaska on April 9-12, 2014, hereby urges Congress to support the expansion of eligibility for the HUD-VASH program to be administered on tribal lands and Alaskan Native communities to provide housing assistance for homeless Indian veterans; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Central Council urges Congress to strongly support the Indian Veterans Housing Rental Assistance Demonstration Program, which authorizes the Secretary to implement a rental assistance and supportive housing demonstration project, in cooperation with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, for the benefit of Indian Veterans who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness and who are residing on or near Indian lands and Alaskan Native communities; and

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

ADOPTED this 12th day of April 2014, by the Seventy-Ninth Tribal Assembly of Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.

CERTIFY



President Richard J. Peterson

ATTEST



Tribal Secretary Jolene Edenshaw