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News of Issues Affecting Tribes and Tribal Housing Programs

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National American Indian Housing Council

NAIHC, a not-for-profit organization, assists tribes and tribal housing entities in reaching their self-determined goals of providing culturally relevant, decent, safe, sanitary and quality affordable housing for Native people in Indian communities and Alaska Native Villages.

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THE WORST CASE SCENARIO

The draft of the 137 page House of Representatives' Continuing Resolution 20 is out. The good news is the Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) and the Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) funding levels were untouched at \$623.7 million and \$59.4 million, respectively. The bad news is **ALL earmarks were stripped** from the FY 06 appropriations including NAIHC's technical assistance and training funding. The CR is expected to sail through the House today. It will then go to the Senate.

What you can do:

1. Call or write your senators now. Please see the attached list.
2. Everyone should especially contact Senator Robert Byrd (D-WV), Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, and other Members of the Appropriations Committee. Chairman Byrd and other key appropriators are marked in bold and with an asterisk (*).
3. Thank your Members of Congress for maintaining funding levels for the Indian Housing Block Grant and the Indian Community Development Block Grant.
4. Tell them that NAIHC is not an earmark because the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act authorizes a national organization that represents Native American housing interests to provide training and technical assistance to tribes. Tell them the National American Indian Housing Council can best provide these services.

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