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MEMORANDUM

August 4, 2017

To: Housing Clients

From: Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Walker, LLP

Re: *NAIHC Legislative Committee Meeting*

This memo reports on the monthly NAIHC Legislative Committee meeting, which was held on August 3, 2017 (by teleconference). The Chairman of the Legislative Committee, Gary Cooper, and NAIHC Executive Director, Tony Walters, presided over the brief call.

Appropriations Update:

Mr. Walters provided an appropriations update. Both the House and the Senate have reported out appropriations bills for each committee. Overall, both House and Senate appropriators rejected the proposed significant cuts in the Trump Administration's budget for housing programs in Indian Country, and did not propose increased funding from FY 2017. The next step requires a vote on the full appropriations bills for each committee, or the adoption of continuing resolutions. The House has commenced its August recess, and the Senate will commence its recess shortly. Congress will resume session the week following Labor Day.

The Senate Appropriations Committee FY 2018 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development bill was released on July 27, 2017. The bill proposes funding for the Indian Community Development Block Grant at \$60,000,000, funding for the NAHASDA Indian Housing Block Grant at \$655,000,000, funding for Section 184 at \$1,000,000 for guarantees of up to \$270,270,270, and funding for the Tribal HUD-VASH program at \$5,000,000 for renewal grants, which encompasses rental assistance and associated administrative fees for the Tribal HUD-VASH program. The bill proposes an allocation of \$1,000,000 to remain available until September 30, 2019 for the Native Hawaiian Block Grant.

The numbers from the Senate bill are relatively close to those in the House bill: The House Appropriations Committee FY 2018 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development bill includes funding for the Indian Community Development Block Grant at \$60,000,000 (the same as FY 2017), funding for the NAHASDA Indian Housing Block Grant at \$654,000,000 (essentially the same as FY 2017), funding for Section 184 at \$5,500,000 for guarantees of up to \$1,486,486,486, and funding for the Tribal HUD-

VASH program at \$7,000,000 for renewal grants, which encompasses rental assistance and associated administrative fees for the Tribal HUD-VASH program. No allocation is proposed for the Native Hawaiian Block Grant.

Legislative Update:

Mr. Walters discussed progress on the BUIILD Act. The BUIILD Act reauthorizes the NAHASDA block grant and contains several amendments to NAHASDA. The BUIILD Act was introduced on May 25, 2017, and there was an oversight hearing at the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on June 13, 2017 (that we reported on in a previous memo). The next step will be a markup of that bill, which was expected to occur in July, but now appears to be delayed until after the Senate returns from its August recess. The August recess is a good time for NAIHC members to connect with their Representatives and Senators to discuss the Act.

Legislative Priorities Work Group:

Mr. Walters discussed NAIHC's progress drafting one-page white papers for the NAIHC priority advocacy issues as identified by the legislative priorities working group. NAIHC is still looking for volunteers to draft several of the white papers, and can supply a template. NAIHC is hoping to have these white papers drafted over August. We have attached a list of the available topics. To volunteer, please contact NAIHC. The final versions will be posted on NAIHC's website.

Announcements:

NCAI will hold its Annual Convention and Marketplace in Milwaukie, WI, October 15-20, 2017.

The next NAIHC in-person event is the Legal Symposium, to be held at the Palazzo/Venetian hotel in Las Vegas, NV, December 3-5, 2017.

The next Legislative Committee meeting will be held via teleconference on September 7, 2017, at 1:30 PM Eastern.

Conclusion:

If you have any questions about the items in this memorandum, please do not hesitate to contact Edmund Clay Goodman at EGoodman@hobbsstrauss.com or by phone at (503) 242-1745.