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MEMORANDUM

March 11, 2022

To:	TRIBAL HOUSING CLIENTS
FROM:	Ed Clay Goodmann
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NAIHC Legislative Committee Meeting RE:

This memorandum provides a brief summary on the omnibus federal spending bill, which includes appropriations for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022.

I. **Omnibus Bill**

On March 10, 2022, Congress passed a \$1.5 trillion omnibus bill, and President Joe Biden is expected to sign it. The bill provides \$1,002,806,000 for Native American programs, to remain available until September 30, 2026. The bill also includes a 21% increase in funding for Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) programs. It increases the formula-funded Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) to \$772 million for tribes which is the first substantial increase in the base formula grant program in decades. Below is a breakdown of the amounts compared to prior years.

Programs	FY 2021	FY2022
IHBG	\$647 million	\$772 million
Competitive IHBG	\$100 million	\$150 million
Training and Technical Assistance Grants	\$7 million	\$7 million
Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG)	\$70 million	\$72 million
Title VI Loan Guarantee	\$1 million	\$1 million
Section 184 Loan Guarantee	\$1.5 million	\$3 million
Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant (NHHBG)	\$2 million	\$22 million
Tribal HUD Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH)	\$5 million	\$5 million

The bill also includes other provisions addressing Indian housing, such as:

- Directing the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to include activities that improve water or energy efficiency or increase resilience to natural hazards as eligible projects for the IHBG Competitive and the ICDBG programs;
- Directing HUD to solicit feedback from Tribes on the competition process and challenges, and to brief the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 180 days of enactment of this act on the results of that outreach; and
- Directing HUD to collaborate to develop a coordinated environmental review process as well as to simplify and streamline tribal housing development, with the intent to "eliminate unnecessary federal barriers to housing development."

For the Indian Housing Section 184 Loan Guarantee Program, the bill provides an additional \$500,000 for administrative contract expenses to carry out the loan guarantee program. The bill further allows HUD to use funds provided in this bill, together with unobligated funds from previous acts, for the cost of the unobligated guaranteed loans to subsidize a total loan level of \$1.4 billion. The full explanatory statement in the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (T-HUD) section of the bill can be read <u>here.</u>

Further, the bill reauthorizes the Violence Against Women Act. The bill also includes a four-day stopgap measure extending current funding levels through March 15, 2022 to ensure there is no lapse in appropriations before President Biden signs the larger bill.

Conclusion

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ed Clay Goodman at <u>EGoodman@hobbsstraus.com</u> or by phone at (503) 242-1745.