

**32<sup>ND</sup> NATIONAL INDIAN & NATIVE AMERICAN  
EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING CONFERENCE  
Scottsdale, Arizona  
April 21, 2011**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 2011-03**

**CENSUS 2010 AND THE ACS**

We, the Indian and Native American Grantees of the National Indian and Native American Employment and Training Conference (NINAETC) attending the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants rights secured under Indian Treaties and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and constitution of the United States and the several states, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Native people, to preserve Indian and Native cultural values, and otherwise promote the welfare of the Indian and Native people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the NINAETC are the representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and tribal concerns; and

**WHEREAS**, the NINAETC is a national organization comprised of American Indians, Alaskan Natives, and Native Hawaiians; and

**WHEREAS**, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of NINAETC; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2010 Census counted nearly 3 million American Indian and Alaska Native people; over 5.2 million if persons are included who reported that they are members of another racial group as well as American Indian or Alaska Native. This represents an increase of 18.4% in the American Indian / Alaska Native (AI/AN) "Alone" population since the 2000 Census, and an increase of 26.7% in the AI/AN "Alone or in Combination;" and

**WHEREAS**, the 2010 Census will not report any information on the socio-economic characteristics of the AI/AN population or of any other. The 2010 Census did not collect information on such important characteristics as employment status or income level. In the past such data was derived from a "long form" questionnaire distributed as an integral part of the decennial census. Such "long form" data was used to allocate funding among tribes and Native organizations for several key federal programs, including those authorized by the Workforce Investment Act (WIA);

**WHEREAS**, the US Census Bureau now collects information on the socio-economic characteristics of the population through a relatively new survey – the American Community Survey, or ACS for short. ACS asks the same questions that the old decennial "long form" questionnaire did, but in other respects is very different. One major difference is that it draws data from a smaller sample of the population.

**WHEREAS**, early analysis of the data on the AI/AN population emerging from the ACS raised serious questions about the ability of the ACS to provide an accurate picture of the wellbeing of the Native population.

**AND WHEREAS**, federal agencies that in the past have used data for fund allocation purposes that is now found only in the ACS need to carefully examine whether they should rely on the ACS to equitably distribute funds to tribal and other Native American grantees.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the 32<sup>nd</sup> National Indian and Native American Employment and Training Conference recommends that TAT funding be made available to support the Census Work Group on our behalf to analyze and make recommendation on future funding allocation methodology for using ACS data.

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual National Indian and Native American Employment and Training Conference, held at the Talking Stick Resort, Scottsdale, Arizona, on April 21, 2011 with a quorum present.

  
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Kathy Atkins  
Chairman, 2011 NINAETC

  
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Roselyn Shirley  
Secretary, 2011 NINAETC