

WHEREAS the Legal Services Corporation recognizes the unique status of Native American persons and the unique legal needs of this population; and

WHEREAS the Legal Services Corporation funds those programs and components best able to provide quality representation to Native American persons who have a unique legal status with the United States government because of membership in a recognized, unrecognized, or terminated tribe; because of residence on or near reservations or within the special Indian service areas of Oklahoma and Alaska; and including Alaskan natives and native Hawaiians who have a similar unique status; and

WHEREAS the Legal Services Corporation continues its commitment to meeting the special legal and access needs of Native Americans as mandated by Section 1007(h) of the Legal Services Corporation Act; and

WHEREAS the Legal Services Corporation staff and Board recognize the dedication and commitment of staff attorneys, paralegals, tribal advocates, support staff, and private attorneys of Native American programs and components who work to assure access to justice;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legal Services Corporation formally pledges its resources to assist in meeting the unique legal needs of the Native American population.

Mr. Bogard commented that he had established a personal continuing dialogue with the Native American programs in an attempt to assist them with their unique problems. He expressed his personal admiration for the dedication of those working in this area of service, and he stated that he fully supports the commitment of the Corporation to increased service and cooperation with Native American programs.