



**COALITION OF LARGE TRIBES**

Blackfeet Nation • Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe • Crow Nation • Eastern Shoshone Tribe  
Fort Belknap Indian Community • Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nation • Navajo Nation • Northern Arapaho Tribe  
Oglala Sioux Tribe • Rosebud Sioux Tribe • Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux Tribe  
Shoshone Bannock Tribes • Spokane Tribe • Ute Indian Tribe • Walker River Paiute Tribe

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## **Coalition of Large Tribes (COLT)**

### **Resolution: 09-22-2023-Resolution #04 2023 (Washington DC)**

#### **Resolution in Support of the Draft Tribal Homelessness Prevention Act**

**WHEREAS**, the Coalition of Large Tribes (COLT) was formally established in early April 2011, and is comprised of Tribes with large land base, including the Blackfeet Nation • Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe • Crow Nation • Eastern Shoshone Tribe • Fort Belknap Indian Community • Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nations • Navajo Nation • Northern Arapaho Tribe • Oglala Sioux Tribe • Rosebud Sioux Tribe • Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux Tribe • Shoshone Bannock Tribes • Spokane Tribe • Ute Indian Tribe • Walker River Paiute Tribe and is Chaired by Councilman Marvin Weatherwax, Blackfeet Tribal Business Council; and

**WHEREAS**, COLT was organized to provide a unified advocacy base on all issues affecting tribes that govern large trust land bases; and

**WHEREAS**, COLT Tribes consist of tribes that have a land base of 100,000 acres of land or more, of which, of the 574 federally recognized tribes, more than 50 tribes meet this criterion; and these tribes control 95 percent of tribal lands and consist of one half of the Native population; and

**WHEREAS**, housing shortages and overcrowded housing is at crisis stages in Indian Country, especially on the lands of COLT Member tribes who have large, remote and rural land bases with inadequate housing stock; and

**WHEREAS**, Congress recognized the need for specific rental assistance during the COVID-19 public health emergency and provided and funded the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP); and

**WHEREAS**, Tribal nations received several tranches of ERA1 funds allocated under section 501 of Division N of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Pub. L. No. 116-260 (Dec. 27, 2020) (ERA1 statute), as amended by Section 3201 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2 (Mar. 11, 2021); and

**WHEREAS**, the ERA1 funding that tribes received were critical in tribes' efforts to address homelessness in their communities as such monies were put to good use for rental and utility assistance for their tribal citizens; and



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**WHEREAS**, unfortunately, some tribes were unable to expend their entire ERA1 monies given short timelines between receiving such monies from the United States Department of the Treasury (Treasury) and the ERAP deadline for expending and Treasury recouped unspent ERAP monies despite tribes' continuing need for those monies; and

**WHEREAS**, the need for rental and utility assistance remains high in Indian Country not only as the economy continues to rebound from the public health pandemic, but, also, because of the significant disparities in socio-economic conditions found in Indian Country, where there is poverty, unemployment and lack of housing especially on the large, rural reservations of COLT Member tribes; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a need for Congress to take action to help tribes address homelessness in their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, COLT has reviewed the attached draft Tribal Homelessness Prevention Act and believes it is in the best interest of COLT Member tribes and Indian Country.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, COLT supports the draft Tribal Homelessness Prevention Act and calls on the United States Senators and Representatives representing COLT Member tribes to sponsor, co-sponsor and support this legislation and work to enact it this session of Congress.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that this resolution shall be the policy of COLT until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.



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**CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was enacted at a duly called meeting of the Coalition of Large Tribes held on ancestral lands of the Anacostans (also documented as Nacotchtank), and the neighboring Piscataway and Pamunkey peoples, Washington, DC on September 22, 2023, at which a quorum was present, with the resolution approved unanimously.

Dated this September 22, 2023

Attest:

Marvin Weatherwax  
COLT Chairman

*Oliver Semans Sr*

OJ Semans  
COLT Executive Director  
(Carrying out duties delegated by Secretary Nathan Small upon his retirement)