



**NATHPO**

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICERS

P.O. Box 19189 • Washington, D.C. 20036-9189 • Phone: (202) 628-8476 • Fax: (202) 628-2241 • [www.nathpo.org](http://www.nathpo.org)

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**NEWS RELEASE**—For Immediate Release      **Contact:** D. Bambi Kraus, (202) 628-8476 [bambi@nathpo.org](mailto:bambi@nathpo.org)

**FEDERAL ADVISORY COUNCIL SUPPORTS AMENDING THE  
NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT FOR NATHPO MEMBERSHIP**

WASHINGTON—May 9, 2011: The federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) voted unanimously in favor of supporting an amendment to the National Historic Preservation Act (“the Act”) that would add the National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (NATHPO) as a full council member. The action was taken on May 5, 2011, as part of the council’s Spring Business Meeting that was held in Washington, DC.

As the sole federal agency with the exclusive mission of historic preservation, the ACHP plays an important role in the preservation of the nation’s heritage. In its advisory functions to the Congress and executive branch and through its participation in the Section 106 process, the ACHP relies on the guidance and policy direction of its diverse membership. In 1992, amendments to the Act acknowledged and encouraged the role of Indian tribes in the national historic preservation framework and authorized tribes to take over state historic preservation duties under the Act through the establishment of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs). THPOs have come to play an important role in preserving and rejuvenating the unique cultural traditions and practices of tribal communities.

NATHPO was created as a national, not-for-profit membership association of tribal governments that are committed to preserving, rejuvenating, and improving the status of tribal cultures and cultural practices. Since organizing in 1998, NATHPO has supported Indian tribes and the number of THPOs has dramatically increased from 15 (in 1998) to 117 (in 2011).

“This positive action is an important step forward for Indian country, which is the fastest growing segment of the historic preservation field. NATHPO appreciates the support of our preservation partners and looks forward to our continued collaborations and partnerships,” said Reno Keoni Franklin, NATHPO General Chairman (Kashia Pomo).

Once the Act is amended, NATHPO would have the same voting status as the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Currently NATHPO serves as an official Observer on the council.

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