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**NCAI President Joe Garcia Statement on President Obama's Signing of
Economic Stimulus Legislation**
Includes Nearly \$3 billion in Tribal Provisions

WASHINGTON—February 17, 2009—National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) President Joe A. Garcia released the following statement on President Barack Obama's signing of The American Economic Recovery and Reinvestment Plan of 2009 that includes nearly \$3 billion in tribal provisions.

“I applaud Congress and President Obama for including tribal governments in this legislation to help heal the U.S. economy. As governments, we must seize this opportunity, act quickly and be prepared to contribute to the economic recovery of our great nation. This is a time for tribal leaders to be vigilant, responsive and accountable so that these funds are not only used to lift Native communities out of a decades-old depression but to also help lift this country out of its current recession. We owe it to the country and our fellow citizens to do our part. As President Obama has kept his commitment to include tribes in this important legislation, Indian Country stands ready to be sound, efficient and timely stewards of the funds set aside for our communities.”

[Click here for Senate Committee on Indian Affairs press release.](#)

[Click here for Congressman Dale Kildee press release.](#)

[Click here for Finance Committee Chairman Senator Max Baucus press release.](#)