The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

organized February 3, 1950

A Resolution Recommending and addressing the reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act

Resolution No. 13-09

WHEREAS, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes (ITC) is an organization that unites the tribal governments of the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee (Creek), and Seminole nations, representing over 500,000 Indian people throughout the United States, and,

WHEREAS, the ITC recommends that once AIVR Programs attain funding they should continue to be funded based on decisions from monitoring and technical assistance, the same as the state vocational rehabilitation programs, rather than re-competing for funding every five years, and,

WHEREAS, the ITC recommends a steady expansion of AIVR Programs by increasing the allotted amount by 1% each year from Section 110(c)(2)(A) and (B) of the amount appropriated under Section 100(b)(1) of the Act to its current statutory amount of 1.5%, and,

WHEREAS, the ITC recommend amending the Act to provide a funding priority under Title VII for Independent Living (IL) services to Tribal Communities. Due to the small amount of Title VII dollars currently available, we recommend that a separate and commensurate stream of Title VII funding be established for AIVRS programs. We also recommend a mandate to the current IL centers to coordinate with the AIVR programs in states to assure that IL services are appropriately provided to American Indian/Alaska Natives living on the reservation or within their tribal territory.

WHEREAS, the ITC recommends that the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), in collaboration with CANAR, Inc. adopt a set of performance criteria by which AIVR Program can be measured and developed a plan for onsite monitoring of AIVR Programs. We also recommend that RSA continue to utilize the TVR-CIRCLE and Capacity Building projects to provide technical assistance to the AIVR Programs.

WHEREAS, the ITC recommends that the Workforce Investment Act to add language similar to Section 101(a)(2)(B) that requires a "Designated Tribal Unit" (DTU) be established with parallel organizational roles and responsibilities as Designated State Units.
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes recommends language addressing the preceding five priorities be included during the reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Durant, Oklahoma on this 14th day of February, 2013, by a vote of All in Favor for None against and 8 abstentions.

Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation

George Tiger, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Gregory P. Byle, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Leonard M. Harjo, Principal Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

Bill John Baker, Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation