## The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

## A Resolution in Requesting Support for Native Contract and Rate Expenditure Act. H.R. 4843

Resolution No. 14-19

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.



Bill John Baker Principal Chief

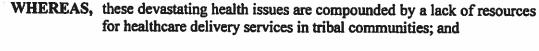
Bill Anoatubby Governor





WHEREAS, Native Americans suffer disproportionately from health inflictions, such as diabetes, heart disease, and cancer; and

and





Gary Batton **Principal Chief** 

WHEREAS, Indian Health Services (IHS) is continually underfunded with a budget that only meets about 59% of need: and

WHEREAS, Congressman Tom Cole and Congresswoman Betty McCollum recently introduced the Native Contract and Rate Expenditure (CARE) Act, H.R. 4843 to improve access to healthcare for Native Americans; and



George Tiger Principal Chief

WHEREAS, the CARE Act would require non-hospital providers to accept Medicare rates from the Purchased/Reimbursed Care (PRC) program (formerly known as Contract Health Services); and

WHEREAS, under current law, only hospital providers must accept Medicare rates from PRC, so IHS routinely pays the full-billed rate to non-hospital providers; and



Leonard M. Harjo Principal Chief

WHEREAS, the practice of paying full-billed rates to non-hospital providers quickly diminishes funds; and

WHEREAS, in a 2013 report, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) found that IHS and tribal healthcare facilities would be able to provide millions of dollars in additional care to our people under the proposed CARE Act.

NOW THERFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, on behalf of our people, and in the interest of long, healthy lives for our children and grandchildren, we urge the passage of the Native Contract and Rate Expenditure (CARE) Act, H.R. 4843.

## **CERTIFICATION**

The	foregoing	resolution	was	adopted	by 1	the	Inter-7	Cribal	Сощ	cil o	of the	Five
Civil	ized Tribe	s meeting is	n Tha	ackerville	, Okl	laho	ma on	this 1	l 1 <sup>th</sup> da	y of	July,	2014,
by a	vote of	in furte	יר אנ	one_	agair	ıst a	nd	Ø	ab	stent	ions.	

Bill Anoatubby, Governor The Chickasaw Nation

George Tiger, Principal Chief Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Gary Batton, Chief Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Leonard M. Harjo, Principal Chief Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

Bill John Baker, Principal Chief

Cherokee Nation