The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution Requesting Consultation with the White House Council on Native American Affairs with Concern to Expansion of Self-Governance Opportunities Between Federal Agencies Not Included Under the Indian Self Determination Act, and Tribal Governments

Resolution No. 15-02

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 38 federally recognized tribal nations in Oklahoma have been successfully entered into self-governance compacts or self-determination contracts with the federal government under the Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA), Public Law 93-638 as amended, for over 20 years; and

WHEREAS, tribal governments currently receive funding from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to protect their lands, air and water resources; and

WHEREAS, the EPA acknowledged their desire to expand tribal self-governance in its 1984 EPA Indian Policy; and

WHEREAS, on June 26, 2013, President Obama signed an Executive Order establishing the White House Council on Native American Affairs (WCNAA), which its mission and function is to, “work across executive departments, agencies and offices to coordinate development of policy recommendations to support tribal self-governance and improve the quality of life for Native Americans, and shall coordinate the United States Government’s engagement with tribal governments and their communities.”

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes urges Congress to enact legislation to include other federal agencies, including but not limited to the EPA, as eligible for entering into self-governance compacts or contracts with tribal nations under the ISDEAA.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes requests that the WCNAA coordinate consultations between tribal nations and federal agencies not included in the ISDEAA for the purpose of developing a legislative proposal to expand the scope of existing law, which aligns with the current policies of the Obama Administration that honors tribal self-governance and goals of the 1984 EPA Indian Policy to increase self-governance.
capabilities for tribal programs, thus providing the capability for tribes to better manage the unique needs of their nations.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma on this 9th day of January, 2015, by a vote of for __________ against and ______ abstentions.

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