The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution Supporting the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma in Having its Former Reservation Lands So Recognized by the United States

Resolution No. 16-19

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 more than 650,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Inter-Tribal Council is the nationally recognized voice of the Five Civilized Tribes; and

WHEREAS, the member Nations of the ITC each have a recognized jurisdictional area within the State of Oklahoma as well as former reservation areas within and without Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, a tribal land base is a vital aspect of the exercise of tribal sovereignty, is essential to the growth of tribal economies and the health, welfare, and security of Indian people, and is an integral part of the culture and heritage of Indian people; and

WHEREAS, despite its vast historic land holdings, currently less than 500 acres of land are held in trust for the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, lands claimed by the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma as its former reservation lands were, at various points in history, set aside by treaty for the exclusive use of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma and are not subject to such claims by any other ITC member Nation nor any other Indian Nation; and

WHEREAS, the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma does presently and has historically provided services to its members residing within its jurisdictional area and within its former reservation lands; and

WHEREAS, the ITC strongly supports the treaty rights of all Indian Nations and further recognizes the inherent right of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma to claim its former reservation lands and the importance of said lands being recognized by the United States as Seminole Nation of Oklahoma former reservation lands.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes supports the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma in having its former reservation lands officially recognized by the United States as Seminole Nation of Oklahoma former reservation lands.
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CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Norman, Oklahoma on this 8th day of July, 2016, by a vote of all for 0 against and 0 abstentions.

Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation

James R. Floyd, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Gary Barton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Leonard M. Harjo, Principal Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

Bill John Baker, Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation