

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution Supporting the Defense of the American Indian Arts and Crafts Sales Act of 1974

Resolution No. 17-08



Bill John Baker
Principal Chief

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



Bill Anoatubby
Governor

WHEREAS, House Bill 2261 (HB2261) was signed into law in 2016 by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma and amended the American Indian Arts and Crafts Sales Act of 1974 (Act); and



Gary Batton
Chief

WHEREAS, the ITC passed Resolution No. 14-04 in support of legislation similar to HB 2261, and passed Resolution No. 16-09 in support of HB 2261; and

WHEREAS, the amended Act defines "American Indian tribe" as any Indian tribe federally recognized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and further, defines "American Indian" as a citizen or enrolled member as defined by each federally recognized American Indian tribe; and



James R. Floyd
Principal Chief

WHEREAS, the Attorney General of Oklahoma has been sued in his official capacity by Peggy Fontenot in the Western District of Oklahoma to enjoin enforcement of the Act; and

WHEREAS, Fontenot, who is not a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe, claims she can no longer sell her art in Oklahoma and market it as "American Indian-made" because of the Act; and



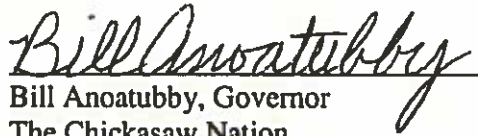
Leonard M. Harjo
Principal Chief

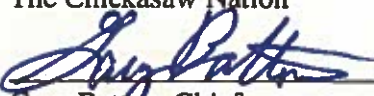
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants the inherent sovereign rights of our five nations, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of Indian people, support the Attorney General of Oklahoma in defending the amended American Indian Arts and Crafts Sales Act of 1974 in the lawsuit by Ms. Fontenot.

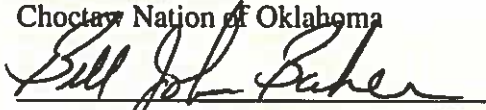
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CERTIFICATION

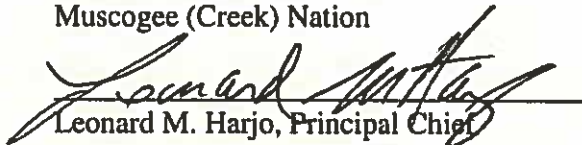
The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Thackerville, Oklahoma on this 13th day of January, 2017, by a vote of all for 0 against and 0 abstentions.


Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation


Gary Patton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma


Bill John Baker, Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation


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


Leonard M. Harjo, Principal Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma