

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution of the Inter-Tribal Council Supporting the Renewal of the Special Diabetes Program for Indians

Resolution No. 17-14



Bill John Baker
Principal Chief



Bill Anoatubby
Governor



Gary Batton
Chief



James R. Floyd
Principal Chief



Leonard M. Harjo
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

WHEREAS, Congress has the constitutional authority and responsibility to provide for Indian health care. Tribes signed treaties and negotiated other agreements with the United States in which they ceded vast amounts of territory in exchange for certain solemn promises. These promises include protecting Tribal self-government and providing for the health and well-being of Indian peoples. Indian treaties are the supreme law of the land, and in carrying out these treaty obligations, the United States has "moral obligations of the highest responsibility and trust"; and

WHEREAS, Congress established the Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI) in 1997 to address the growing epidemic of diabetes in American Indian and Alaska Native communities. This program has grown and become the nation's most strategic and effective federal initiative to combat diabetes; and

WHEREAS, the program has allowed Tribes to collect data and document that the investment is both saving lives and saving the federal healthcare system money. According to the United States Renal Data System, there has been a remarkable decline in diabetes incidence rates in American Indians and Alaska Natives since 1998 that has resulted in a 29 percent decline, more than any other race, in prevalence rates of end-stage renal disease (ESRD) – a costly complication often linked with diabetes; and

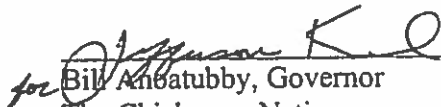
WHEREAS, the current SDPI authorization expires on September 30, 2017, and has not received an increase in funding since 2002; the program has effectively lost 23 percent in programmatic value over the last 12 years due to the lack of funding increases corresponding to inflation.

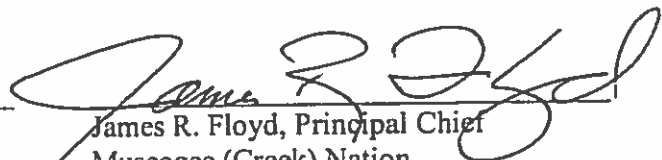
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes hereby supports the renewal for the SDPI for at least 5 years at 200 million per year.


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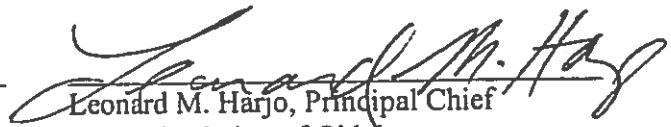
CERTIFICATION


The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma on this 7th day of April, 2017, by a vote of all for 0 against and 0 abstentions.

for 
Bill Anetubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation


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


Gary Batton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma


Leonard M. Harjo, Principal Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

For 
Bill John Baker, Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation