

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

Supporting the Continuation of CMS funding to Oklahoma's medical schools

Resolution No. 18-04



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 approximately 750,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and



Bill Anoatubby
Governor

WHEREAS, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) may potentially cut millions in federal funds from Oklahoma's state medical schools, including Oklahoma State University (OSU) and the University of Oklahoma (OU); and



Gary Batton
Chief

WHEREAS, for more than twenty years, CMS has provided federal funds to OSU and OU to ensure that SoonerCare patients received care; and

WHEREAS, the largest recipients of the SoonerCare program are American Indians, with more than 125,000 tribal citizens currently participating in the SoonerCare program through OSU and OU's clinical network, which makes these institutions vital to not only the SoonerCare program, but also to the well-being of American Indians and other populations; and



James R. Floyd
Principal Chief

WHEREAS, the loss of CMS funds would severely limit the ability of OSU and OU to provide services to SoonerCare patients and would result in even worse physician shortages across Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, the ITC understands that the Oklahoma Health Care Authority, the State Medicaid agency, must submit to CMS immediately with a waiver amendment or other mechanism to ensure that these critical and substantial health services are not lost, and we acknowledge it will require an expedited Tribal Consultation that may be shorter than the 14-days required in its State plan.



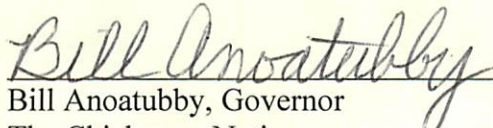
Greg P. Chilcoat
Chief

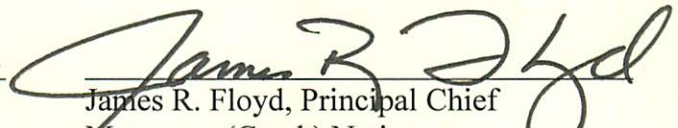
NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes calls upon the State of Oklahoma, Congress and the Trump Administration to find a long-term solution to continue CMS funding to OSU and OU to ensure the SoonerCare participants will not face a health care gap and to safeguard the healthcare network of the state.

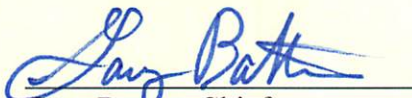
The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

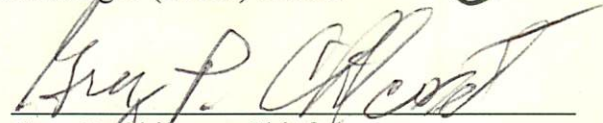
CERTIFICATION

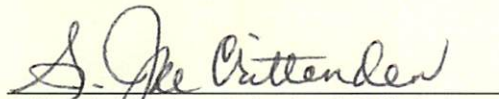
The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Thackerville, Oklahoma on this 12th day of January 2018, by a vote of 5 for 0 against and 0 abstentions.


Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation


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


Gary Batton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma


Greg P. Chilcoat, Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma


FOR Bill John Baker, Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation