The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution in Support of an Oklahoma State House Bill to Change the Date of Native American Day to the Second Monday of October

Resolution No. 18-01

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

WHEREAS, Oklahoma has a Native American population of nearly 10%; and

WHEREAS, throughout its history, Native Americans have contributed immeasurably to the state of Oklahoma, distinguishing themselves as scholars, artists, entrepreneurs and leaders in all aspects of our society; and

WHEREAS, the lands now known as the United States of America were occupied by millions of Native Americans for thousands of years before the arrival of the first Europeans; and

WHEREAS, an inaccurate portrayal of history is often taught in our school systems that Columbus and Europeans were the first peoples to “discover” America; and

WHEREAS, a bill sponsored by Oklahoma House District 6 Representative Chuck Hoskin, will be introduced this year in the Second Regular Session of the 56th Oklahoma Legislature that will move the current state holiday, “Oklahoma Native American Day” to the second Monday in October;

NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes fully supports Representative Hoskin’s proposed change of “Oklahoma Native American Day” to the second Monday in October.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes calls on all Oklahomans to commemorate this day with appropriate activities to celebrate and honor the culture, contributions and traditions of Native Americans.
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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 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

Bill John Baker, Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation