The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution Opposing Elimination of the Bureau of Indian Affairs’ Housing Improvement Program in the President FY19 Budget Request

Resolution No. 18-07

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, the five Tribes of the Inter-Tribal Council are dedicated to providing Indian and Native American citizens quality services designed to address their needs; and

WHEREAS, the Housing Improvement Program (HIP) is administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to provide funding for home repair, renovation, replacement and new housing grants to eligible applicants who have no immediate resource for standard housing; and

WHEREAS, the HIP program, established in 1962, is not duplicative of any other federal program given that it serves the neediest of the needy who have substandard housing or no housing at all; and

WHEREAS, the BIA recently expanded the HIP program to provide down payment assistance, which leverages modest federal investment with private or other public mortgage lending; and

WHEREAS, the President’s FY19 budget request seeks to eliminate HIP despite the continuing high levels of unmet housing needs in Indian country.

NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes opposes the President’s FY19 budget request to eliminate the Bureau of Indian Affairs’ HIP program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes fully supports the continued funding of the HIP program at its current level of $23 million.
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Catoosa, Oklahoma on this 1st day of May, 2018, by a vote of 21 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, Principal Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

Bill John Baker, Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation