The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A resolution calling for restoration of federal government operations and funding of tribal programs

Resolution No. 19-01

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, the United States government, through treaty obligations and statutory requirements, has a trust responsibility to Indian tribes, including fiduciary commitments that are critical to the success of tribal governments and the health and wellbeing of tribal citizens; and

WHEREAS, tribal governments efficiently and effectively deploy federal dollars to provide essential social services including health care, education, housing, transportation, public safety, food assistance, natural resources protection, economic development and employment; and

WHEREAS, the Continuing Resolution to fund several federal government agencies and programs including the United States Departments of Interior, Agriculture, Commerce, Justice, Treasury, Homeland Security, Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development as well as the Environmental Protection Agency expired on December 21, 2018; and

WHEREAS, this lapse in federal funding has resulted in a partial government shutdown leaving Indian Country without critical federal government support staff and cutting off vital lines of funding that sustain tribal programs; and

WHEREAS, the impact of a long-term shut down would be devastating for our most vulnerable tribal citizens, including young children and elders, who rely on the programs and services provided by tribal governments for their basic needs; and

WHEREAS, the continued uncertainty and loss of funding will have dire consequences for every facet of tribal government operations, including tribal businesses, which are key economic engines and job creators for our communities; and

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes urges Congress and the Administration to reach an agreement that will reopen the federal government and restore federal funding for tribal programs,
The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

including options to recover funds that were discontinued as a result of the partial government shutdown.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma on this 11th day of January 2019, by a vote of 22 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