A Resolution Supporting Tribal Promise Zones

Resolution No. 19-23

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 750,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma was named as the first ever tribal Promise Zone in 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Thunder Valley Promise Zone, Pride of the Great Plains Promise Zone and Spokane Tribe of Indians Promise Zone have since been designated as tribal Promise Zones to support and empower their communities through this initiative; and

WHEREAS, Section 12510 of P.L. 115-334, the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, commonly referred to as the 2018 Farm Bill, calls for the designation of additional tribal Promise Zones; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 Farm Bill requires these additional tribal Promise Zones to be designated by the Secretary of Agriculture within one year of the enactment of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (December 20, 2018); and

WHEREAS, the one year anniversary of the enactment of the 2018 Farm Bill is rapidly approaching and the Department of Agriculture has not yet publicly announced progress in these steps to designate additional tribal Promise Zones; and

WHEREAS, the nomination of additional tribal Promise Zones in Indian Country can and will help establish private-public partnerships and ensure investment in some of the most underserved areas in Indian Country.

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes hereby supports the designation of additional tribal Promise Zones.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes hereby encourages the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture to begin the consultation and application process to name additional tribal Promise Zones.
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 Durant, Oklahoma on this 11th day of October, 2019, by a vote of _____ for _____ against and _____ 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

Chuck Hoskin, Jr., Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation