

# The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

## *A Resolution Supporting Federal and State Efforts to Address the Murdered and Missing Indigenous Peoples' Crisis*

### Resolution No. 21-21



Chuck Hoskin Jr.  
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, and Muscogee (Creek), representing approximately 780,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and



Bill Anoatubby  
Governor

**WHEREAS,** on some reservations American Indian and Alaska Native women face murder rates that are more than 10 times the national average; and

**WHEREAS,** Native communities continue to experience high levels of domestic violence, sexual violence, child abuse, stalking, murder, and trafficking, many of these crimes are committed by non-Indians, and there is a need to amend federal law to improve access to justice and safety for victims in tribal communities; and



Gary Batton  
Chief

**WHEREAS,** on April 20, 2021, the Governor of Oklahoma signed into law S.B. 172, Ida's law, which directs the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation to cooperate with the U.S. Department of Justice to access federal funding to create a local Office of Liaison for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons, collect crucial lifesaving data, and further address the Murdered and Missing Indigenous People (MMIP) crisis; and



David W. Hill  
Principal Chief

**WHEREAS,** the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) was first passed in 1994, reauthorized in 2000, again in 2005, and 2013 and each of these bills included important provisions aimed at improving safety and justice for Native women, but its authorization has since expired; and

**WHEREAS,** in 2015 DOJ announced the Tribal Access Program for National Crime Information (TAP), which provides eligible tribes with access to the Criminal Justice Information Services systems;

**WHEREAS,** there has never been funding authorized for the TAP program and some tribes report that they are unable to access the program;

**WHEREAS,** on April 1, 2021 the Secretary of the Interior, Deb Haaland, created the Missing and Murdered Unit (MMU) within the Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Justice Services to coordinate and oversee cross-department and interagency work involving MMIP; and

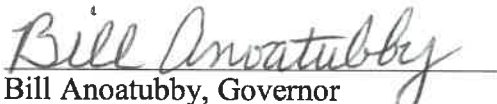
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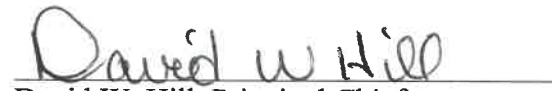
**NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT**, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes supports the State of Oklahoma to fully implement Ida's law when the statute goes into effect on November 1, 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes supports all efforts of the federal government to combat and respond to the MMIP crisis, greater tribal access to national criminal information database systems, and increased funding and dedication to Tribal law enforcement programs.


## CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2021, by a vote of 18 for 0 against and 0 abstentions.

  
Bill Anoatubby, Governor  
The Chickasaw Nation

  
David W. Hill, Principal Chief  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

  
Gary Batton, Chief  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

  
Chuck Hoskin Jr., Principal Chief  
Cherokee Nation