WHEREAS, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes as united the tribal government of the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Seminole and Creek Nations, and

WHEREAS, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes represents more than 300,000 Native Americans, and

WHEREAS, the member tribes of the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes have enjoyed the set-aside provided to them under Title VI of the Older Americans Act, and

WHEREAS, the Council agrees with the current Older Americans Act, Section 602, “Sense of Congress,” that older individuals who are Native American, Alaskan Native or Native Hawaiian are a vital resource entitled to all benefits and services available and that such services and benefits should be provided in a manner that preserves and restores their individual and respective identify, self-respect and cultural identities, and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that Congress is considering consolidating Title III (state programs) and Title VI (Grants to Indian tribes) into one title, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes calls upon Senators Don Nickles and Jim Inhofe, as well as the members of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, to intervene on behalf of the Council and its member citizens to maintain Title III and Title VI as separate portions of the Older Americans Act and to continue the “Sense of Congress” as stated in the current Older Americans Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes asks that all language in the current Older Americans Act be retained which targets the “older individuals who have greatest social need (with particular attention to low-income minorities)”, and that monies be set aside for Title VI grants to Indian tribes including services for senior employment, senior abuse and other supportive programs.

Executed in Special Executive Session by the Executive Committee of the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes, meeting at Muskogee, Oklahoma on October 26, 1995, by a vote of 5 for, 0 Against, and 0 Abstentions.

CERTIFICATION

Signed by
Joe Byrd, Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation

Signed by
Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Choctaw Nation

Signed by
Hollis Roberts, Chief
The Chickasaw Nation

Signed by
Bill Fife, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Signed by
Jerry Haney, Principal Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma