The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution Urging the Oklahoma Legislature to repeal House Bill 1775

Resolution No. 22-19



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 Nation, representing approximately 815,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and



WHEREAS, in 2021, the Oklahoma Legislature passed House Bill 1775 with the stated intent of prohibiting educational curriculum or activities that imply any individual should feel discomfort on account of his or her race or sex, among other provisions; and



Bill Anoatubby

WHEREAS, the vague wording of the law has contributed to fear among school districts and teachers about teaching accurate historical information, including accurate history of the experiences of Native American peoples in Oklahoma; and



WHEREAS, HB1775 threatens to derail the progress tribes have made in recent years to provide an accurate history of our country and our state's complex relationship with Native Americans in schools; and



WHEREAS, ignoring difficult pieces of history because they may cause some "discomfort" is dangerous and does a disservice to students who should be taught history through documented facts and accurate portrayals of the time periods being studied; and



WHEREAS, capricious and poorly reasoned enforcement of the law by the Oklahoma State Board of Education has added to the fear and confusion among Oklahoma educators; and



WHEREAS, accurate historical education is essential for Oklahoma public school students to understand present conditions and avoid repeating past mistakes, especially when it comes Native Americans and other groups who have experienced historical injustice;

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes urges the Oklahoma Legislature to immediately repeal HB 1775.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes urges that the Oklahoma State Board of Education to refrain from enforcing the provisions of HB 1775, including revoking teaching certifications, until the law is either repealed or

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clarified to ensure that students are receiving factual and accurate histories of our state and country.

CERTIFICATION

Tribes meeting in Durant, Oklahoma on	the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized this 7 th day of October, 2022, by a vote ofabstentions.
Bill Anoatubby, Governor The Chickasaw Nation Gary Batton, Chief Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma	David W. Hill, Principal Chief Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chuck Hoskin Jr., Principal Chief Cherokee Nation
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Lewis J. Johnson, Chief Seminole Nation of Oklahoma