

**The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL
of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES**

NUMBER 97-05

**Resolution Supporting the Position of Associate Commissioner for American
Indian, Alaskan Native and Native Hawaiian Aging as Mandate by the Older
Americans Act**

WHEREAS,

the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes is an organization which unites the tribal governments of the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee (Creek), and Seminole Nations, representing over 300,000 Indian people throughout the United States, and

WHEREAS,

Public Law 101-601 enacted November 16, 1990 by the 101st Congress through H.R. 5237, known at the "Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act" or "NAGPRA" mandates the return of certain human remains, burial items, cultural objects and sacred objects and also incorporates a protection factor into the law, and

WHEREAS,

The Inter-Tribal Council desires to protect and preserve the cultural heritage and promote the respectful treatment of the remains of Native Americans, associated and unassociated burial items, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony, and

WHEREAS,

The University of Alabama is using remains of Native Americans in classroom activities that permit the handling of bones that could possibly be affiliated with members of the Five Civilized Tribes,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

that the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes does request that all further studies and classroom use of Native American remains at the University of Alabama and the University of Alabama Museum of Natural History cease immediately.