

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

NUMBER 97-07

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 as the "Native American Graves Protection 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;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

that the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized 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.

Executed in regular session of the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting on February 14, 1997, by a vote of 25 for, 0 against, and 0 abstentions.

Joe Byrd Signed
Joe Byrd, Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation

Hollis Roberts Signed
Hollis Roberts, Chief
Choctaw Nation

Perry Beaver Signed
Perry Beaver, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Jerry Haney Signed
Jerry Haney, Principal Chief
Seminole Nation

Bill Anoatubby Signed
Bill Anoatubby, Governor
Chickasaw Nation