

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

NUMBER 98-16

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,

There is a need within the member tribes to provide assistance to Indian children who are entitled to court-ordered child support, and

WHEREAS,

The Chickasaw Nation has a child support program that provides establishment and enforcement of tribal orders and establishment of paternity by utilizing the Court of Indian Offenses, and

WHEREAS,

There is a need to protect tribal sovereignty, Indian customs and family values, and state agencies lack the training, staff and understanding of Indian Tribes to effectively assist Indian children in receiving their child support or establishment of paternity, and

WHEREAS,

The Court of Indian Offenses and tribal courts were developed to serve Native Americans, and allowing states to prosecute child support obligations ordered by Indian courts removed Indian people from the jurisdiction of the Indian and tribal courts,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes hereby authorizes the Chickasaw Nation Child Support Enforcement Program to assist member tribes of the council in enforcing and establishing child support orders, establishing paternity and modifying their court-ordered child support.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

That the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes of Oklahoma authorized Mr. Jerry Sweet, coordinator of the Chickasaw Nation Child Support Enforcement Program, to represent Indian families as a child support advocate in the Court of Indian Offenses.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes of Oklahoma meeting at Fountainhead Lodge, Eufaula, Oklahoma on July 10, 1998, by a vote of 25 for, 0 against and 0 abstentions.

Joe Byrd Signed
Joe Byrd, Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation

Randle Durant Signed for
Gregory E. Pyle, 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