

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution Encouraging Actions by Congress to Support Feeding Programs of the FDPIR

Resolution No. 13-35



Bill John Baker
Principal Chief



Bill Anoatubby
Governor



Gregory Pyle
Principal Chief



George Tiger
Principal Chief



Leonard M. Harjo
Principal Chief

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 Nations, representing over 500,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and,

WHEREAS, the ITC recognizes the important role that food, agriculture, and nutrition play in the social and economic well being of Indian communities; and,

WHEREAS, the ITC is made up of tribal governments that each have roles and responsibilities in ensuring their citizens have access to healthy and nutritious food; and,

WHEREAS, the ITC tribes each administer the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations that provides feeding program services and food packages that address the needs of the most food insecure among their tribal members; and,

WHEREAS, the ITC tribes acknowledge that there currently exists a shutdown of the federal government, including major portions of the FDPIR feeding program, the WIC program, and related feeding programs affecting their most vulnerable citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the ITC tribes acknowledge that there currently is not a Farm Bill in place, the previously enacted farm bill having expired without further action by Congress, and such lapsed Farm bill in addition to the government shutdown has caused negative impacts in the administration of FDPIR and related feeding programs; and,

WHEREAS, the ITC tribes acknowledge that there currently is not a Farm Bill in place, the previously enacted Farm Bill having expired without further action by Congress, and such lapsed Farm Bill in addition to the government shutdown has caused negative impacts in the administration of FDPIR and related feeding programs; and,

WHEREAS, the ITC tribes believe that the FDPIR program, once it is fully operational, must make changes to enable full parity in the administration of the program vis-a-vis states that administer the program to ensure that tribal governments that administer FDPIR are allowed to carry forward unused funds that will thereby allow greater ability to do contingency planning and thereby allow parity with states that administer the program; and,

WHEREAS, the ITC tribes believe that changes in the contract administration and provisions related to food delivery to locations and tribal management sites must be amended to allow for tribes to reject spoiled or damaged food products to ensure that FDPIR does not pay for unusable food product which leads to waste over which FDPIR tribal program managers have no control; and,


WHEREAS, the ITC tribes commend USDA and their FDPIR program managers and their joint work to improve the healthy aspects of food package items, and encourage continued actions in that regard; and,


WHEREAS, the ITC tribes anticipate greater numbers of FDPIR program participants as SNAP program participation rates fall and continuing 'food desert' circumstances in Indian country persist and the FDPIR program must continue to be fully supported by USDA and Congress.


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes encourage NCAI and all tribes support this resolution, encourage action by congress to ensure that feeding programs that serve the most vulnerable of our citizens continue to be supported, and ensure the future success and continued improvement of the FDPIR program as an integral part of the food security safety net to tribal citizens.

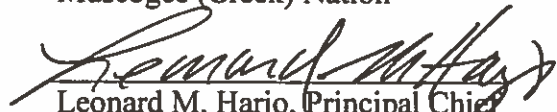
CERTIFICATION

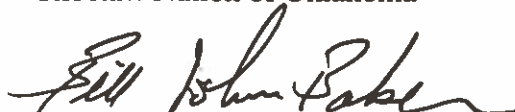
The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma on this 11th day of October, 2013, by a vote of 20 for 0 against and 0 abstentions.


Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation


George Tiger, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation


Gregory E. Pyle, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma


Leonard M. Harjo, Principal Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma


Bill John Baker, Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation