

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



Bill John Baker  
Principal Chief



Bill Anoatubby  
Governor



Gary Batton  
Chief



James R. Floyd  
Principal Chief



Leonard M. Harjo  
Principal Chief

### *A Resolution in Support of Maintaining the 2016 Fiscal Year Funding Level of \$210 million for Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Office on Smoking and Health*

Resolution No. 16-23

**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 650,000 Indian people throughout the United States.

**WHEREAS**, the ITC recognizes that American Indian people suffer greater health disparities than others living in Oklahoma and recognize the impact that tobacco use has on the American Indian population. The top leading causes of death among Indians in Oklahoma are heart disease, cancer, unintentional injuries and diabetes.

**WHEREAS**, the historic allocations of resources appropriated to all Indian health systems have created a disparity and underfunding for the Oklahoma Area compared to all other Areas in the United States. The Oklahoma Area has been in the bottom 25% of all Indian Health Areas and consistently rates as one of the lowest funded Areas within the IHS system.

**WHEREAS**, Tobacco use is disproportionately high within Oklahoma's tribes and this funding supports crucial tobacco cessation programs, including tobacco prevention and tobacco quit lines. American Indian/Alaska Native's (AI/AN) have higher smoking prevalence than any other racial or ethnic subgroups, with 29.2 percent of adults and 24.6 percent of youths being active smokers.

**WHEREAS**, Investing in tobacco prevention at the state and federal levels has proven successful in reducing tobacco-related death and disease. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) tobacco prevention work is a vital component of the effort to help adult tobacco users quit and prevent young people from starting the habit. The CDC works with tribes and tribal support centers to combat tobacco use among American Indians. The CDC grantees must work with AI/AN partners to address disparities among the American Indian population, and provide leadership, training, guidance, consultative support, and technical assistance to tribes in their tobacco prevention work.

Supporting level funding for CDC tobacco prevention work would continue CDC's positive relationship with tribes.

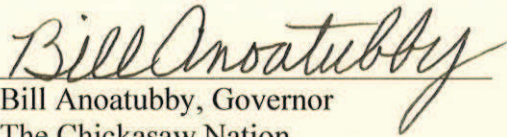
**WHEREAS,** Maintaining Fiscal Year 2016's funding of CDC Office on Smoking and Health (OSH) will also allow the highly successful and cost-effective Tips from Former Smokers Campaign to continue. During a nine week phase of the Tips campaign in 2014, 1.8 million Americans were motivated to make a quit attempt and 104,000 smokers quit.


**WHEREAS,** Last year, the Appropriations Subcommittee Bill proposed a 50% cut to OSH, which would have had a catastrophic impact on the work that OSH does. Thankfully, the Senate did not have such a cut in their proposed bill and after final negotiations, there was only a 3% cut. Because of what happened last year, we are concerned another significant cut might be proposed.

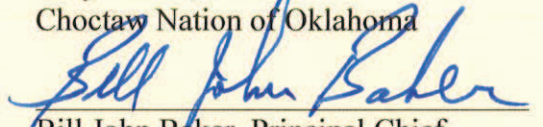
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** the ITC is in support of maintaining the Fiscal Year 2016 funding level of CDC OSH.

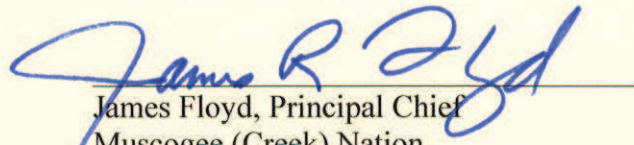
#### CERTIFICATION


The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma on this 8<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2016, by a vote of all for 0 against and 0 abstentions.

  
Bill Anoatubby, Governor  
The Chickasaw Nation

  
Gary Batton, Chief  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

  
Bill John Baker, Principal Chief  
Cherokee Nation

  
James Floyd, Principal Chief  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

  
Leonard M. Harjo, Principal Chief  
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma