

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

### *A Resolution Supporting the Safeguard Tribal Objects of Patrimony (STOP) Act of 2019*

#### Resolution No. 19-21



Chuck Hoskin Jr.  
Principal Chief



Bill Anoatubby  
Governor



Gary Batton  
Chief



James R. Floyd  
Principal Chief



Greg P. Chilcoat  
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 more than 750,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and

**WHEREAS,** the cultural heritage of the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee (Creek), and Seminole Nations has long been trafficked by non-Indians domestically and internationally, and for just as long, the Five Tribes have advocated for the repatriation of cultural heritage and sacred items; and

**WHEREAS,** items of significance and sacred objects are essential aspects of tribal cultures that can only be passed down to future generations if they are held by tribal governments and tribal citizens; and

**WHEREAS,** the Safeguard Tribal Objects of Patrimony (“STOP”) Act of 2019 was introduced in the United States House of Representatives this session by Representative Ben Ray Luján with bipartisan support and is intended to eliminate the export of, and encourage the repatriation of, tribal cultural heritage; and

**WHEREAS,** the bill strengthens the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (“NAGPRA”), creates an export certification system, confirms the authority of the President to facilitate the repatriation of cultural items, establishes a federal framework for repatriation, creates a working group to ensure NAGPRA implementation across the federal government, authorizes a tribal working group to provide recommendations on NAGPRA implementation and creates a FOIA exemption for information submitted by Indian tribes in accordance with the STOP Act; and

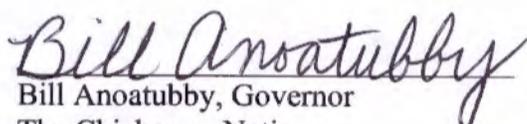
**WHEREAS,** the bill, in part, helps fulfill the United States government’s trust responsibility to Indian tribes, a legal and moral obligation assumed by the United States government through treaties, congressional legislation, executive orders, court cases and other legal documents in return for millions of acres of land.

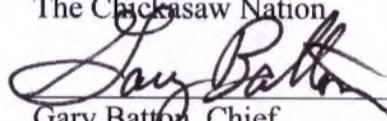
**NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT,** the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes hereby supports the Safeguard Tribal Objects of Patrimony (STOP) Act of 2019.

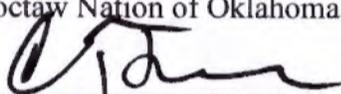
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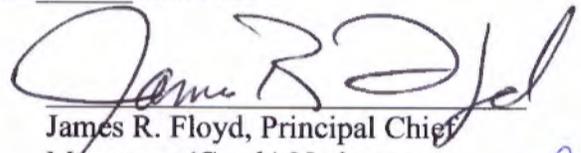
### CERTIFICATION

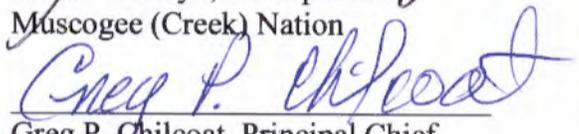
The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Durant, Oklahoma on this 11<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2019, by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ against and \_\_\_\_\_ abstentions.

  
Bill Anoatubby, Governor  
The Chickasaw Nation

  
Gary Batton, Chief  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

  
Chuck Hoskin, Jr., Principal Chief  
Cherokee Nation

  
James R. Floyd, Principal Chief  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

  
Greg P. Chilcoat, Principal Chief  
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma