

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution Supporting Efforts to Ensure Full Participation of Tribal Citizens in the 2020 Census

Resolution No. 19-20



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 next decennial census, mandated in Article 1, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, will occur on April 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the decennial census is a foundation of American democracy that is used to allocate congressional seats and electoral votes and to guarantee equal representation, so an accurate census count is necessary to ensure that Native American voters have an equal voice in the political process of non-tribal elections; and

WHEREAS, census data also plays a key role in the fair distribution of billions of dollars to tribes and Native American people across the nation, including distribution of federal funding for tribal programs that support education, health care, infrastructure, housing and economic development; and

WHEREAS, Native American people have been historically underrepresented in the census, and the Census Bureau estimates that 44.5% of Native Americans in the state of Oklahoma live in hard-to-count Census tracts; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Census Bureau is facing several challenges with the 2020 Census, which include declining response rates, technological change and fiscal constraints, making support from partners in local communities even more critical; and

WHEREAS, tribal governments, civic and religious organizations, health care providers, educational institutions and other community stakeholders can help ensure an accurate 2020 census count by sharing information and providing resources to assist local residents with completing the census form.

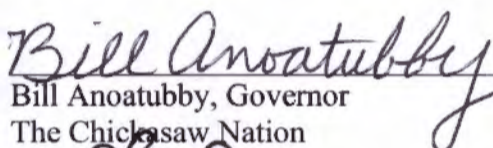
NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes hereby supports the ideals and goals of the 2020 census and encourages efforts to market and share 2020 census information through partnerships with local stakeholders.

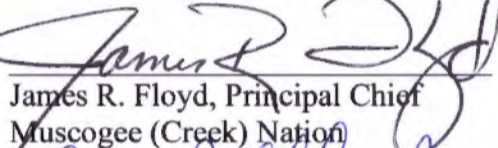
The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

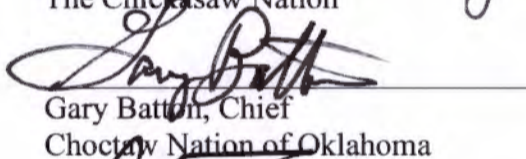
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes hereby encourages tribal governments to establish Tribal Complete Count Committees to support an accurate and complete count of all tribal citizens and to raise awareness about the programs and services made possible by the Census.

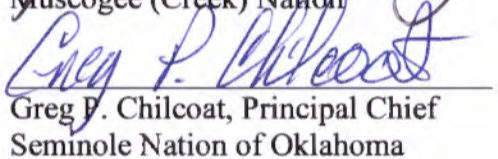
CERTIFICATION

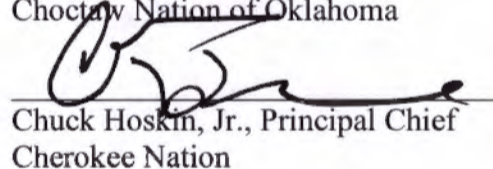
The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Durant, Oklahoma on this 11th day of October, 2019, by a vote of _____ for _____ against and _____ abstentions.


Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation


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


Gary Batton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma


Greg F. Chilcoat, Principal Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma


Chuck Hoskin, Jr., Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation