

# The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

## *A Resolution Supporting Restoration of the Earned Income Tax Credit*

### Resolution No. 20-01



Chuck Hoskin Jr.  
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 more than 750,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and



Bill Anoatubby  
Governor

**WHEREAS**, the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is a tax credit that most benefits the working poor and those with low-wage jobs and has a clear history of encouraging work and reducing poverty; and

**WHEREAS**, the EITC was enacted in Oklahoma in 2000 and had strong bipartisan support; and



Gary Batton  
Chief

**WHEREAS**, in 2016, Oklahoma lawmakers eliminated EITC refundability and in doing so reduced an essential tax benefit for more than 200,000 Oklahoma working families; and

**WHEREAS**, by ending EITC refundability, Oklahoma has raised taxes, as much as \$279, on those who can least afford it; and



David W. Hill  
Principal Chief

**WHEREAS**, in the forty (40) counties in Oklahoma with tribal jurisdiction, approximately 115,000 families lost all or some of their benefits for EITC in 2016, representing a loss of \$124 per household; and

**WHEREAS**, working families already contribute their fair share of state taxes through the sales and excise taxes that they pay, with the average family earning under \$20,000 a year paying twice as much of their income in state and local taxes as the wealthiest Oklahomans; and



Greg P. Chilcoat  
Chief

**WHEREAS**, refundability is critical to the success of the EITC because it allows the credit to still reward work and support families even if they pay little income tax.

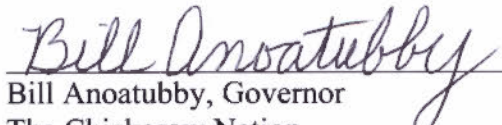
**NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT**, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes hereby supports the restoration of the Earned Income Tax Credit.

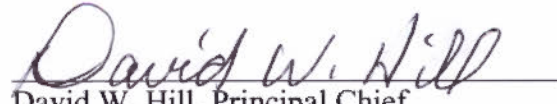
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes calls upon the Oklahoma legislature to pass legislation during the 57<sup>th</sup> legislative session to restore the Earned Income Tax Credit.

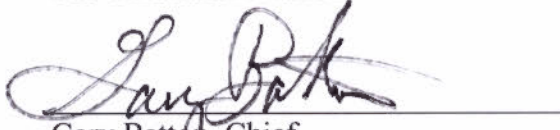
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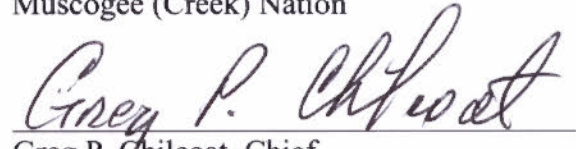
## CERTIFICATION

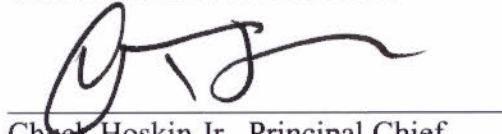
The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Catoosa, Oklahoma on this 10th day of January, 2020, by a vote of 22 for 0 against and 0 abstentions.

  
Bill Anoatubby, Governor  
The Chickasaw Nation

  
David W. Hill, Principal Chief  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

  
Gary Batton, Chief  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

  
Greg P. Chilcoat, Chief  
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

  
Chuck Hoskin Jr., Principal Chief  
Cherokee Nation