

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution Supporting the Confirmation of Deb Haaland as Secretary of the Interior

Resolution No. 21-01



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 approximately 750,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and



Bill Anoatubby
Governor

WHEREAS, Deb Haaland was selected by President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris as their nominee for the United States Secretary of the Interior; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior is charged with leading divisions of the federal government that are critical to Indian Country and the government-to-government relationship, including the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Indian Education, and the Bureau of Trust Funds Administration; and



Gary Balton
Chief

WHEREAS, Deb Haaland is uniquely qualified to serve as the Secretary of the Interior. A graduate of the University of New Mexico Law School and a former tribal administrator, Haaland has firsthand knowledge of tribal governance. A trailblazer, she was the first Chairwoman elected to the Laguna Development Corporation Board of Directors to oversee the second largest tribal gaming enterprise in New Mexico and one of the first Native American women elected to Congress. During her time in Congress, Deb Haaland has served as the Vice Chair of the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources, as the Chair of the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, and as a member of the Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States; and



David W. Hill
Principal Chief

WHEREAS, as an enrolled member of the Pueblo of Laguna, Deb Haaland will be the first American Indian to serve in the Presidential Cabinet and first to serve as the Secretary of the Interior once her nomination is confirmed by the Senate; and



Greg P. Chilcoat
Chief

WHEREAS, as a member of Congress, Deb Haaland has been a fierce advocate for Indian Country and served as a champion on issues brought forth by the Five Tribes; and

WHEREAS, Deb Haaland has spent her career working to strengthen tribal sovereignty, protect and defend natural resources, and expand protections for Native women and children. As a member of Congress, she introduced the

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Honoring Promises to Native Nations Act which sought to enact recommendations from the *U.S. Commission on Civil Rights' "Broken Promises" Report*; and

WHEREAS, as a member of Congress, Deb Haaland authored the Not Invisible Act to help address the crisis of missing and murdered indigenous peoples which was signed into law in September of 2020; and

WHEREAS, having Deb Haaland's expertise at the helm of the Department of the Interior will greatly benefit all of Indian Country, including the Five Tribes; and

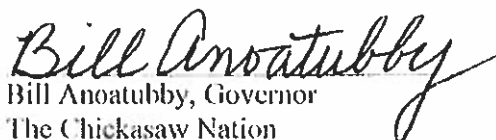
WHEREAS, Deb Haaland is someone who knows what it is like to struggle and work hard and she will work tirelessly for every person - no matter their tribal affiliation, party, politics or beliefs; and

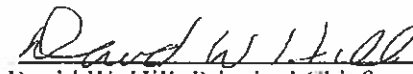
NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes supports Deb Haaland's nomination for United States Secretary of the Interior.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes urges the United States Senate to confirm Deb Haaland as Secretary of the Interior.

CERTIFICATION

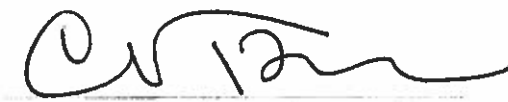
The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting virtually on this 8th day of January, 2021, by a vote of 17 for 0 against and 0 abstentions.


Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation


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


Gary Patton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

ABSENT
Greg P. Chilcoat, Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma


Chuck Hoskin Jr., Principal Chief

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Cherokee Nation