

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution Supporting Legislation that will allow the Oklahoma State Department of Education to Collect Tribal Affiliation Data for Enrolled Students in Oklahoma Public Schools

Resolution No. 21-05



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, the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee (Creek), and Seminole Nations are Indian Nations dedicated to working with the state to build a public education system where Native students can thrive; and

WHEREAS, Oklahoma public schools currently enroll more than 130,000 American Indian students benefiting from Title VI grant, the highest number in the country; and



Gary Batton
Chief

WHEREAS, the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee (Creek), and Seminole Nations are important partners with our public education system that collectively provide millions of dollars of support for public schools each year through gaming compacts and direct contributions; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma State Department of Education's (OSDE) student information system does not have currently have statutory permission from the State of Oklahoma to collect tribal affiliation data on students enrolled in Oklahoma public schools; and



David W. Hill
Principal Chief

WHEREAS, the lack of this data can limit schools' ability to meet the cultural and educational needs of students who are citizens of tribal nations and may cause school districts to miss out on federal funds for Indian students through Title VI and the Johnson-O'Malley program;

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes urges the Oklahoma State Legislature and Governor to pass a law allowing the OSDE to collect tribal affiliation data for enrolled students in Oklahoma public schools as part of demographic information collected at the time of enrollment.

CERTIFICATION

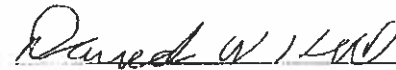
The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in virtually on this 8th day of January, 2021, by a vote of 17 for 0 against and 0 abstentions.



Greg P. Chilcoat
Chief


The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES


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
Cherokee Nation