

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution Supporting Oklahoma Public School Districts

Resolution No. 20-16

WHEREAS, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes (ITC) is an organization that unites the tribal governments of the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, and Muscogee (Creek), representing more than 780,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Five Civilized Tribes represent nearly sixty percent of all Oklahoma public school districts within our tribal reservation boundaries, totaling over three-hundred Oklahoma school districts; and

WHEREAS, ITC continues to elevate Oklahoma's 8-Year Strategic Plan, *Oklahoma Edge* through comprehensive tribal support systems; and

WHEREAS, ITC supports all Oklahoma public schools at national, state, and local levels through engaging communities, building relationships, intervening in educational barriers, supporting educator effectiveness, promoting College and Career Readiness, empowering Native students, and strengthening public education systems throughout Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, the role of the State Aid Funding Formula is to allocate appropriated state funds to Oklahoma public schools providing equity across all schools; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 2078 and Senate Bill 783 alter student transfers and the state funding formula; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 2078 and Senate Bill 783 pose legitimate issues regarding loss of funding at local district levels, particularly those in rural communities; and,

WHEREAS, administrators across tribal reservation boundaries continue to express valid concerns for funding shortfalls, educator layoffs and loss of local control;

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes will continue to identify needs and provide support and legislative advocacy on all levels, calling upon Oklahoma's State legislature to act accordingly in the equitable interest of all public school districts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes stands in support of our Superintendent of Public Instruction and public school districts throughout Oklahoma.



Chuck Hoskin Jr.
Principal Chief



Bill Anoatubby
Governor



Gary Batton
Chief



David W. Hill
Principal Chief

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CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting virtually on this 9th day of April, 2021, by a vote of 18 for 0 against and 0 abstentions.



Chuck Hoskin Jr., Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation



Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation



Gary Batton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma



David Hill, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation