

**The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL
of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES**

NUMBER 97-18

**A Resolution Requesting the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, to Publish
Regulations for Issuance of Certificates of Degree of Indian Blood.**

WHEREAS,

the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes is an organization which unites the tribal governments of the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee (Creek), and Seminole Nations, representing over 300,000 Indian people throughout the United States, and

WHEREAS,

A Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) is a certification by a Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Agency Superintendent or a certifying officer that an individual has a specific quantum of Indian blood, and

WHEREAS,

Many governmental programs have accepted the CDIB as an official document for eligibility to receive services from BIA, Indian Health Service (HIS), and tribes, and

WHEREAS,

As a result of a January 31, 1986 decision of the Interior Board of Indian Appeals in Morgan Underwood, Sr. v. Deputy Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs (Operations), the question of determining degree of Indian blood and making corrections of degree of Indian blood based on policy has become a serious problem, and

WHEREAS,

CDIB's are currently issued based on policy, and

WHEREAS,

Proposed regulations drafted by Muskogee Area and tribal personnel to establish standards for issuing CDIB's have been pending in your office awaiting publication since June 1992; and

WHEREAS,

In April, 1997, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes, by Resolution, requested publication of proposed regulations within 60 days of the enactment, and this is the second request for publication of proposed regulations,.

WHEREAS,

The undersigned chiefs of the Five Civilized Tribes desire to be informed as to why the April, 1997 Resolution was not published and/or acted upon.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That it is vital to the integrity of the CDIB that regulations for issuance of Certificates of Degree of Indian Blood be established and proposed regulations be published in the Federal Register within 60 days of this enactment, and that the undersigned chiefs of the Five Civilized Tribes be notified in writing as to why the April, 1997 Resolution was not published and/or acted upon.

Adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting held at Fountainhead Resort in Eufaula, Oklahoma on July 11, 1997, by a vote of 25 for, 0 against, and 0 abstentions.

J. Garland Eagle Signed for
Joe Byrd, Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation

Greg E. Pyle Signed
Gregory E. Pyle, Chief
Choctaw Nation

Perry Beaver Signed
Perry Beaver, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Jerry Haney Signed
Jerry Haney, Principal Chief
Seminole Nation

Bill Anoatubby Signed
Bill Anoatubby, Governor
Chickasaw Nation