

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

**A RESOLUTION OF THE INTER-TRIBAL
COUNCIL OF THE FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES**

NUMBER 96-24

**Title: A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO THE ISTOOK AMENDMENT TO
THE HOUSE PASSED VERSION OF THE INTERIOR
APPROPRIATIONS BILL AND A CALL TO IMPLORE THE SENATRS
FROM OKLAHOMA TO VEHEMENTLY OPPOSE THE ISTOOK
LANGUAGE IN THE SENATE**

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,

The Istook amendment will not allow lands to be placed into trust for any Tribe or tribal organization or tribal entity unless a binding agreement is in place between the tribe, Tribal organization or Tribal entity and the local and state units of government in which the Tribes agree to pay assessed taxes; and

WHEREAS,

The Istook amendment is in direct violation of the government to government relationship that exists between American Indian Tribes and Nations based on treaties, the U.S. Constitution, and U.S. Supreme Court decisions since 1832; and

WHEREAS,

The Istook amendment was voted out of committee and passed the full House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS,

The Istook amendment is currently before the Senate subcommittee on Interior appropriations mark-up and is expected to go before the full Committee on Appropriations on July 16; and

WHEREAS,

The Department of Interior Appropriations bill should be considered by the Full Senate before the end of July.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

The Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes request that the full Senate Appropriations Committee vote to strike the Istook amendment from the House-passed version of the Interior Appropriations bill; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

By the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes that Senator Nickles and Senator Inhofe vote against the Istook language should it be maintained by the full Senate Appropriations Committee and that they use whatever influence necessary to persuade other members of the Senate to not support the Istook language.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

By the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes that the full Senate is hereby requested to not consider any further actions that are detrimental to the sovereign governmental authorities without first consulting with the elected leadership of the Five Civilized Tribes.

CERTIFICATION

ADOPTED by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting held at Fountain Head Resort, Canadian, Oklahoma on this 12th day of July, 1996, by a vote of 20 for, 0 Against, and 0 Abstentions.

Joe Byrd Signed
Joe Byrd, Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation

Greg E. Pyle Signed for
Hollis Roberts, 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