

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution Supporting Enactment of Federal Land Law Reform with Respect to Individual Restricted Lands of the Muscogee (Creek), Seminole, Cherokee, Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations

Resolution No. 15-03



Bill John Baker
Principal Chief



Bill Anoatubby
Governor



Gary Batton
Principal Chief



George Tiger
Principal Chief



Leonard M. Harjo
Principal Chief

WHEREAS, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes is an organization uniting the tribal governments of the Muscogee (Creek), Seminole, Cherokee, Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, representing over 500,000 tribal members throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes is an active organization established February 3, 1950; and

WHEREAS, the Indian land base is an integral part of the culture and heritage of Indian people; and

WHEREAS, in the early 1900s most of the lands within the respective domains of the Muscogee (Creek), Seminole, Cherokee, Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations Five Tribes ("Five Tribes") were subject to forced allotment to individuals; and

WHEREAS, in the early to mid-1900's Congress enacted a series of special federal land laws applicable only to Five Tribes individual restricted lands; and

WHEREAS, these special laws include the Stigler Act, also known as the "1947 Act," which have remained the primary law governing disposition of Five Tribes individual restricted land; and

WHEREAS, the federal laws governing disposition of Five Tribes individual restricted lands:

- (1) are less protective than federal laws applicable to trust lands of members of other tribes throughout the United States;
- (2) have resulted, and continue to result in, excessive losses of individual restricted Indian lands primarily due to the strict blood quantum requirement for those individuals to whom such land is conveyed;
- (3) have impeded the self-determination and economic self-sufficiency of individual Indians within the boundaries of the Five Tribes;
- (4) are contrary to Federal Indian policy that has encouraged Indian self-determination and economic self-sufficiency.

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WHEREAS, the Five Tribes worked cooperatively to develop, approve, and promote the enactment of federal land reform legislation to remedy problems involving application of these federal laws to Five Tribes individual restricted lands between 1991 and 2002; and

WHEREAS, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes supports the efforts for land reform concerning individual restricted Indian lands within the respective boundaries of each said tribes and that they should be renewed and pursued until a satisfactory result is achieved.

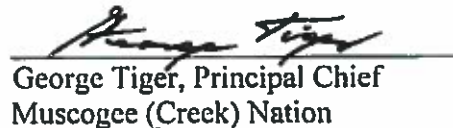
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes does hereby support the enactment of federal legislation that would eliminate any blood quantum of the Five Civilized Tribes requirement in order for lands to remain in restricted Indian land status.

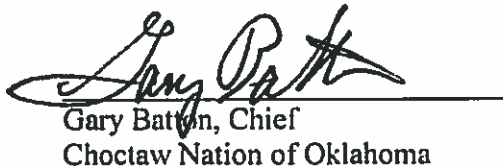
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Realty Trust Services Committee and its 1947 Act Subcommittee are authorized to continue the development of such federal legislation in conformity with this Resolution.

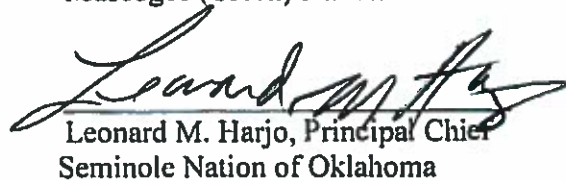
CERTIFICATION

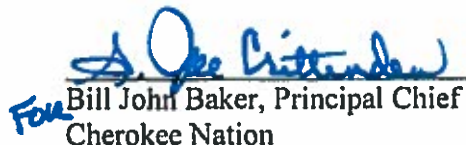
The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma on this 9th day of January, 2015, by a vote of All in favor for none against and 0 abstentions.


Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation


George Tiger, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation


Gary Battin, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma


Leonard M. Harjo, Principal Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma


Bill John Baker, Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation