

# The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES



Bill John Baker  
Principal Chief

## *A Resolution Opposing the Elimination of Funding for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program in the FY2019 President's Budget Proposal*

### Resolution No. 18-12

**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 more than 750,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and



Bill Anoatubby  
Governor

**WHEREAS,** the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federally-funded program that serves low-income households in need of assistance with home energy bills. Priority is given to households with a high energy burden or those with a vulnerable individual in the home, such as a young child under five years old, a person with a disability or an elder over the age of 60; and



Gary Batton  
Chief

**WHEREAS,** LIHEAP assists thousands of households of the Five Civilized Tribes with heating and cooling their homes through a detailed application process; and



James R. Floyd  
Principal Chief

**WHEREAS,** many tribal citizens live in rural areas, making it difficult to access and maintain a dependable job, and furthermore making LIHEAP and similar programs crucial to their welfare; and

**WHEREAS,** Oklahoma is home to the Five Civilized Tribes and suffers from climate extremes, including high heat indexes during summer months and below freezing temperatures during winter months; and



Greg P. Chilcoat  
Chief

**WHEREAS,** the President's FY 2019 budget proposal discontinues funding for LIHEAP thereby eliminating the program, and consequentially depriving tribal citizens of essential resources; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** the Five Civilized Tribes hereby opposes the elimination of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program and urges the United States Congress to protect funding for programs that provide basic needs for tribal children, elders, and individuals with disabilities.

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Catoosa, Oklahoma on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2018, by a vote of 21 for 0 against and 0 abstentions.

Bill Anoatubby  
Bill Anoatubby, Governor  
The Chickasaw Nation

James R. Floyd  
James R. Floyd, Principal Chief  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

*for* Gary Batton  
Gary Batton, Chief  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Greg P. Chilcoat  
Greg P. Chilcoat, Principal Chief  
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

Bill John Baker  
Bill John Baker, Principal Chief  
Cherokee Nation