

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution Urging the Department of Treasury to Immediately Release the Remaining Coronavirus Relief Funds Set Aside for Indian Country

Resolution No. 20-12



Chuck Hoskin Jr
Principal Chief



Bill Anoatubby
Governor



Gary Batton
Chief



David W. Hill
Principal Chief



Greg P. Chilcoat
Chief

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 approximately 750,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, the federal government maintains a trust and treaty responsibility to Indian tribes, which is a legal and moral obligation created by treaties, statutes, executive orders and other legal agreements and laws. Congress therefore has the responsibility to uphold the best interests of tribal governments and their citizens; and

WHEREAS, Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) payments are authorized under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, with \$8 billion allocated to Indian tribal governments and their tribally-owned entities; and

WHEREAS, presently, according to the August 2020 Treasury Statement of Accounts, \$534 million awaits disbursement to tribes; and

WHEREAS, on Friday, September 25, 2020, a D.C. Circuit Court ruled that Alaska Native Corporations (ANC) are not eligible entities for the \$8 billion tribal allocation in the CRF. The \$534 million remaining at the Treasury was set aside pending a ruling on ANC eligibility; and

WHEREAS, tribes have worked around the clock to create innovative, responsible plans to spend CRF funds in ways that benefit their citizens now and in the future, and most effectively respond to the challenges brought upon tribal governments and their citizens by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, tribes must have access to the funds they need to respond to the pandemic, and currently, tribes are unable to access more than half a billion dollars that was intended by Congress for tribal governments; and

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes urges the U.S. Department of the Treasury to immediately release the remaining money set aside for Indian Country, totaling \$534 million.

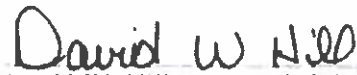
The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting virtually on this 9th day of October, 2020, by a vote of 21 for 0 against and 0 abstentions.



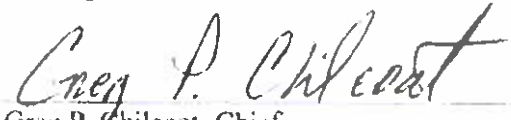
Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation



David W. Hill, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation



Gary Batten, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma



Greg P. Chiloat, Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma



Chuck Hoskin Jr., Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation