

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution Supporting MyHealth Access Network as the solution for statewide inoperability of healthcare data

Resolution No. 21-10



Chuck Hoskin Jr.
Principal 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, and Muscogee (Creek), representing more than 780,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and



Bill Anoatubby
Governor

WHEREAS, the ITC is committed to sustaining and improving the health status of American Indians; and

WHEREAS, participation in the MyHealth Access Network has advanced that goal by enabling tribal health care providers to securely share electronic health records, helping to improve patient safety, reducing duplicative medical tests and procedures, and improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the tribal health care network for more than 10 years; and



Gary Batton
Chief

WHEREAS, the state of Oklahoma has declared its intention to create a state-run HIE with an out-of-state software vendor, which will duplicate and, in some cases, interfere with the services already provided by MyHealth and will reasonably have the effect of undermining the long-standing existing efforts of MyHealth; and

WHEREAS, the plan to create a new state-run HIE was developed and the choice was made with no significant input from the ITC or ITC health systems, including a complete absence of Tribal Consultation from the process; and



David W. Hill
Principal Chief

WHEREAS, the selection process for the HIE vendor did not place any value on the existing investments of nearly \$35M and 10 years of effort invested by ITC health systems, other Oklahoma healthcare providers, health plans, and Federal partners, in building and operating MyHealth Access Network; and

WHEREAS, ITC health systems were founding members and helped to develop the governance of MyHealth to honor the rights and sovereignty of native populations in health information exchange, making MyHealth the first HIE to ever exchange tribal health data; and

WHEREAS, these previous investments in governance, trust agreements, and data exchange enabled MyHealth to provide immediate and real time tracking of the COVID-19 pandemic to help guide public health planning and response; and

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WHEREAS, the State has published intentions of requiring Medicaid providers, including ITC health systems who serve a disproportionately higher Medicaid population (160,115 lives/16% of lives), to participate in the State's HIE; and

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes will support MyHealth Access Network and strongly promotes the partnership with MyHealth Access Network as part of the solution for statewide interoperability of healthcare data.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes encourages the State of Oklahoma to continue to consider tribal perspectives when making choices that impact the health and well-being of tribal members.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting virtually on this 9th day of April, 2021, by a vote of 18 for 0 against and 0 abstentions.



Chuck Hoskin Jr., Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation



Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation



Gary Batton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma



David Hill, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation