

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution Supporting the Frank Harrison, Elizabeth Peratrovich, and Miguel Trujillo Native American Voting Rights Act of 2021

Resolution No. 21-29



Chuck Hoskin Jr.
Principal Chief



Bill Anoatubby
Governor



Gary Botton
Chief



David W. Hill
Principal Chief



Lewis J. Johnson
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, Muscogee (Creek) and Seminole Nation, representing approximately 815,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Constitutional right to vote and access to free and fair elections in the United States is a pillar of our democracy and should be protected at all costs; and

WHEREAS, many Native Americans live in remote, rural locations with poor road conditions, distantly placed polling locations, limited access to post offices and nontraditional mailing addresses, and lack of Native language translation during the voting process; and

WHEREAS, these barriers currently exist and prevent those living on or around tribal lands access to the ballot box, making it extremely difficult for Native Americans to cast their vote; and

WHEREAS, pending in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate is the bipartisan bill, Frank Harrison, Elizabeth Peratrovich, and Miguel Trujillo Native American Voting Rights Act of 2021, which would provide resources to eliminate these barriers and more, and ensure equal access to the electoral process for Native Americans and voters living on tribal land; and

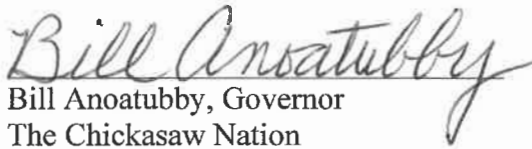
WHEREAS, specifically, this legislation would expand tribal sovereignty and tribal self-determination by allowing tribes to specify the number and locations of requested voter registration sites, drop boxes and polling locations on tribal land, authorize tribal ID cards nationally for voting purposes, and requires prior tribal notice and consent before states and precincts could remove, consolidate, or otherwise reduce access to voting locations on tribal lands, among other things.

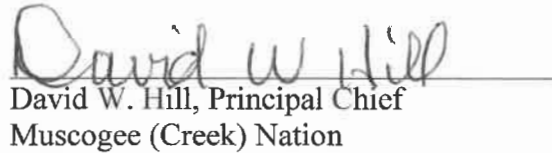
NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes urges the United States Congress to swiftly consider and pass this legislation and it be enacted into law to ensure Native Americans have equal access to the polls and further ensure free and fair elections in the United States.

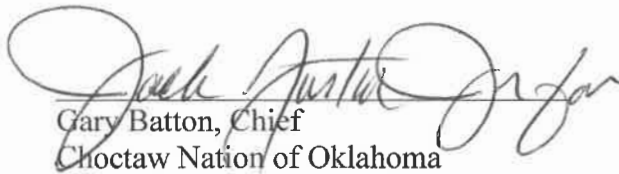
The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

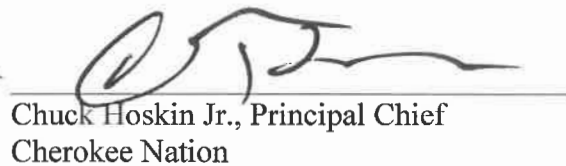
CERTIFICATION

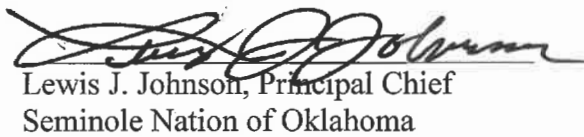
The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Durant, Oklahoma on this 8th day of October, 2021, by a vote of _____ for _____ against and _____ abstentions.


Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation


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


Gary Batton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma


Chuck Hoskin Jr., Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation


Lewis J. Johnson, Principal Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma