

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution Supporting Advance Appropriations for the Indian Health Service and Other Key Federal Funding Allocations to Indian Country

Resolution No. 22-02

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 815,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Federal government of the United States has a unique and special relationship with American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs) to provide health care as established through the U.S. Constitution, Treaties with Indian Tribes, U.S. Supreme Court decisions, and Federal legislation; and

WHEREAS, although the trust relationship requires the Federal government to provide for the health and welfare of Tribal nations, the Indian Health Service (IHS) remains chronically underfunded, and American Indians and Alaska Natives suffer from among the lowest health status nationally; and

WHEREAS, when Federal appropriations bills have not been enacted in a timely manner, Tribal and IHS health care providers' budgeting, recruitment, retention, provision of services, facility maintenance, and construction efforts have all been disrupted; and

WHEREAS, this failure to uphold the Federal trust responsibility can be alleviated by allowing Advance Appropriations, which would provide greater funding predictability and protect Tribal and IHS health programs from delays in enactment of annual appropriations legislation; and

WHEREAS, Advance Appropriations is proven as a successful funding mechanism for essential health care provision, as seen in the Advance Appropriations for Veterans Administrations medical care and benefits programs first authorized in 2009 and expanded to additional VA programs in 2014; and

WHEREAS, legislation to authorize Advance Appropriations of Indian Health Service and other key programs for Indian Country has been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives as H.R. 5549 and H.R. 5567; and

WHEREAS, the Biden Administration has affirmed this solution by putting Advance Appropriations for the Indian Health Service and by reclassifying Section 105(l) leases and Contract Support Costs as mandatory funding in the Administration's FY 2023 budget request, which was fully supported by the Inter-Tribal Council in Resolution Number 21-26, adopted on July 9, 2021;

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes urges Congress to approve Advance Appropriations



Chuck Hoskin Jr.
Principal Chief



Bill Anoatubby
Governor



Gary Batton
Chief



David W. Hill
Principal Chief



Lewis Johnson
Chief

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

for Tribal and IHS health programs and mandatory funding of 105(l) leases and Contract Support Costs.

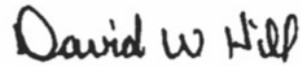
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Inter-Tribal Council urges Congress to fulfill the U.S. trust responsibility by fully meeting tribal nations' needs for clinical services, preventative health, and health care infrastructure in current and future years.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting virtually on this 14th day of January, 2022, by a vote of 22 for 0 against and 0 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


Brian T Palmer (Jan 20, 2022 13:26 CST)

Lewis J. Johnson, Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

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Final Audit Report

2022-01-20

Created:	2022-01-20
By:	Alvina Coker (Coker.a@sno-nsn.gov)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAA_2TCBaHh76kMbZ9rhuAZy1aQmkWahDvx

"ITC Resolution_Advance Appropriations_1.11.22" History

-  Document created by Alvina Coker (Coker.a@sno-nsn.gov)
2022-01-20 - 7:22:33 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to Brian T Palmer (asst.chief@sno-nsn.gov) for signature
2022-01-20 - 7:23:02 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Brian T Palmer (asst.chief@sno-nsn.gov)
2022-01-20 - 7:25:47 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Brian T Palmer (asst.chief@sno-nsn.gov)
Signature Date: 2022-01-20 - 7:26:23 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Agreement completed.
2022-01-20 - 7:26:23 PM GMT