

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution Opposing Federal or State Recognition of Groups that Claim to be Tribal Nations by Circumventing the Office of Federal Acknowledgement

Resolution No. 22-14



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, Muscogee (Creek), and Seminole Nations, representing approximately 815,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and



Bill Anoatubby
Governor

WHEREAS, our tribes maintain a historic and continual government-to-government relationship with the United States and exercised the sovereign rights of self-government; and



Gary Balton
Chief

WHEREAS, our tribes have distinct histories, languages, cultures and identities that have been fiercely protected despite government policies intended to eradicate our ways of life; and



David W. Hill
Principal Chief

WHEREAS, fraudulent groups that appropriate our culture and erroneously claim to be legitimate tribal governments threaten the foundation of tribal sovereignty; and

WHEREAS, the federal government is granted authority by the U.S. Constitution to regulate matters relating to Indian tribes, which includes the process of obtaining federal recognition; and

WHEREAS, these groups often seek state recognition and other means to bolster their legitimacy and bypass the Department of the Interior's Office of Federal Acknowledgement (OFA); and

WHEREAS, the OFA currently manages a fair and measured process for attaining federal recognition, which includes a number of important steps that a petitioner must complete before being granted this status; and

WHEREAS, it is irresponsible for any governmental body, including the United States Congress, to bypass this process in favor of certain groups claiming to be tribal governments.



Lewis J. Johnson
Chief

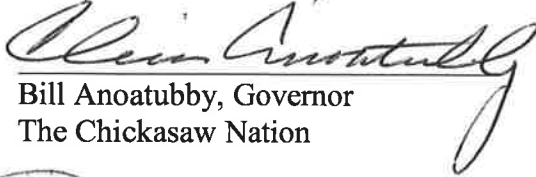
NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes opposes efforts by any group attempting to gain federal or state recognition that circumvents the Office of Federal Acknowledgement (OFA).

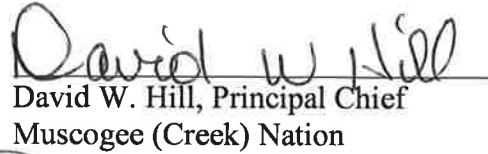
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Inter-Tribal Council opposes current efforts by the "Lumbee Tribe", "Chickamauga Tribe", "Wolf Creek Cherokee", and any other groups illegitimately claiming tribal recognition without following the outlined process of the OFA.

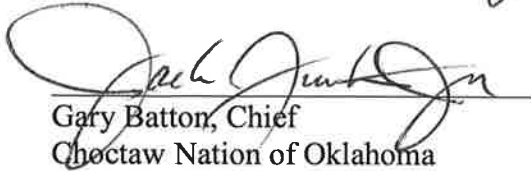
The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

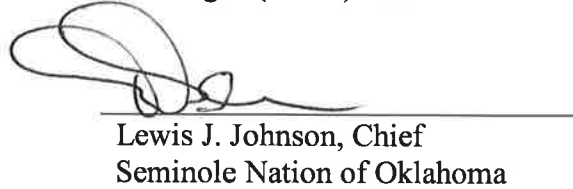
CERTIFICATION

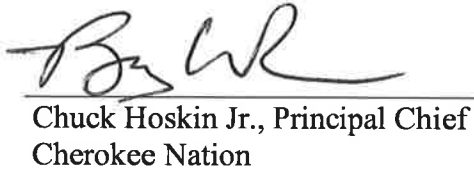
The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma on this 15th day of July, 2022, by a vote of All in favor for 0 against and 0 abstentions.


Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation


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


Gary Batton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma


Lewis J. Johnson, Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma


Chuck Hoskin Jr., Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation