

# The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

## *A Resolution Supporting Expansion of the Advancement of Wellness Advisory Council to Review Cardiometabolic Disease and American Indian Health*

### Resolution No. 23-03



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,** American Indian communities have great resilience rooted in tribal culture. However, our culture and communities have been severely disrupted by colonialism, loss of land, and destructive policies, resulting in historical trauma that contributes to higher rates of chronic disease and underlying risk factors, such as obesity and diabetes; and



Gary Batton  
Chief

**WHEREAS,** in confronting these problems, Tribal Nations and Urban Indian health centers have developed great expertise and experience in public health and wellness, with insights to the most effective ways to combat chronic public health issues; and



David W. Hill  
Principal Chief

**WHEREAS,** strong partnerships between Tribal Nations and the Oklahoma State Department of Health are important for addressing these disparities in health and wellness for American Indian communities and for the entire State of Oklahoma; and



Lewis Johnson  
Chief

**WHEREAS,** the Advancement of Wellness Advisory Council under the Oklahoma State Department of Health is a body where outside experts and state officials have opportunity to review issues related to some of Oklahoma's most pressing public health concerns and make recommendations to OSDH; and

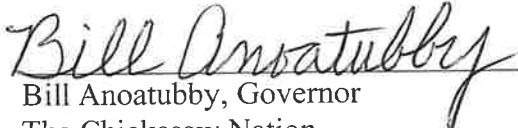
**WHEREAS,** the Advancement of Wellness Advisory Council does not currently include representation on some of Oklahoma's most significant health challenges, including an expert on cardio metabolic diseases such as obesity and diabetes, or any representative of Tribal Nations or Urban Indian Health Clinics.


**NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT,** the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes urges the Oklahoma Legislature to pass legislation that adds three members to the Advancement of Wellness Advisory Council: a member who is knowledgeable about cardio metabolic disease, a member who represents a federally-recognized Tribal Nation, and a member who represents an Urban Indian Health Clinic in Oklahoma or non-profit focusing on American Indian public health, as well as expanding jurisdiction of the Council to issues of cardio metabolic disease and American Indian health.

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## CERTIFICATION


The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2023, by a vote of All 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

  
Lewis J. Johnson, Chief  
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma