

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution Calling on the Oklahoma Legislature to Overturn Vetoes of Tribal Compact Extension Legislation

Resolution No. 23-15



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, compacts between our tribal governments and the state of Oklahoma are the result of extensive negotiations between tribes and the state, in areas where Oklahoma has no authority to impose its laws on tribes; and



Gary Batton
Chief

WHEREAS, these tribal-state compacts represent successful partnerships between sovereigns, balancing revenue needs of tribes with the state's need for tax fairness and ease of enforcement; and



David W. Hill
Principal Chief

WHEREAS, on the Oklahoma Governor's watch, ten tobacco compacts have already expired, forfeiting Oklahoma revenue streams, and fifteen more are set to expire by the end of this year, setting Oklahoma back to the situation of the 1990s with unstable markets and expensive litigation; and



Lewis J. Johnson
Chief

WHEREAS, compacts on motor vehicle licensing are similarly at risk, and the end of these compacts threatens to undo decades of work and damage tribal-state cooperation for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, to avoid this outcome, large supermajorities of the Oklahoma Legislature approved SB 26X and HB 1005X, which would extend tribal-state compacts on motor vehicle licensing and tobacco another year so that negotiations on a longer-term extension may continue; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Governor vetoed both bills and continues to refuse to negotiate in good faith with tribes on compact extensions;

WHEREAS, we thank the Oklahoma Legislature for their steadfast leadership and support of Tribal Nations on this issue; and

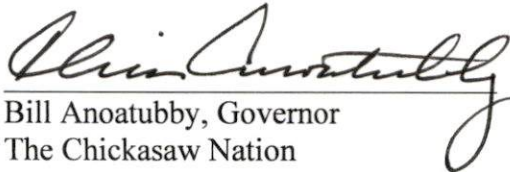
NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes calls on the Oklahoma Legislature to overturn the Oklahoma Governor's vetoes of SB 26X and HB 1005X in special session.

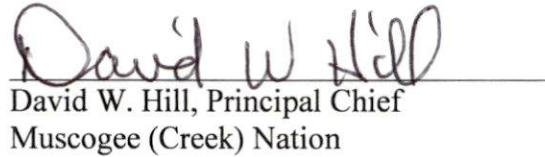
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes calls on the Oklahoma Legislature to continue asserting its authority to preserve and advance tribal-state cooperation.

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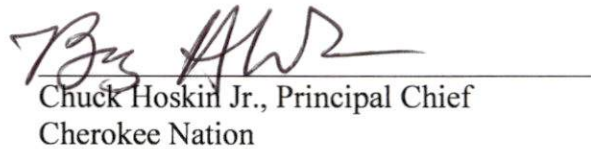
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma on this 14th day of July, 2023, by a vote of 26 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