

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution to Address United States Bill H.R. 1, Addressing Funding Changes for Federal Food Assistance Programs Impacting Indian Country

Resolution No. 25-17



Chuck Hoskin Jr.
Principal Chief



Bill Anoatubby
Governor



Gary Bolton
Chief



David W. Hill
Principal Chief



Lewis J. Johnson
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, on July 4th, 2025, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act was signed into law by President Donald Trump, making vast changes that impact an array of public service programs; with critical impacts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid. Implementations are to begin in the year 2026 and beyond.

WHEREAS food assistance programs like SNAP will have diminished in this recent federal budgeting legislation (H.R.1). Furthermore, the financial responsibility of these programs is to be absorbed by the respective states, including Oklahoma. Therefore, the costs of SNAP administration will require an increase in state funding from 50% to approximately 75%.

WHEREAS 1 in 6 Oklahoma households are reported to lack access to quality food; and 700,000 Oklahomans (including children and seniors) rely on SNAP to help alleviate food insecurity, while 28% of American Indian and Alaska Native households experience similar hardships, but at more than twice the national rate.

WHEREAS the Oklahomans who experience higher risks of food scarcity, and lack resources to proper nutrition, mostly children and seniors, will certainly continue to struggle with such disparity, as the SNAP eligibilities continue to change; namely, by raising the work requirement age from 54 to 64 while requiring more parents to work by lowering the age of exemption based on their children from 14 to 7;

WHEREAS the most affected Oklahomans are also among the most vulnerable within our state, as well as within our tribes. Inasmuch, we, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes (ITC), shall be committed to facilitating food assistance for those who experience food insecurity, particularly, within Indian Country; and


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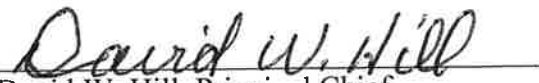
NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes urgently calls upon the Administration to ensure that food insecurity is addressed through an equitable allocation of federal funding in future budgets, and that the states are supported in bearing the new cost of SNAP administration; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes requests the Administration to be a partner in expanding existing food assistance programs such as the Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), and the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) until programs such as SNAP can be restored to its previous funding level and eligibility requirements.

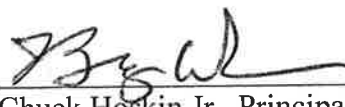
CERTIFICATION

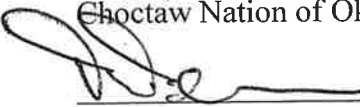
The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma on this 11 day of July, 2025, by a vote of 5 for 0 against and 0 abstentions.


Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation


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


Gary Bolton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma


Chuck Hoskin Jr., Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation


Lewis J. Johnson, Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma