

# The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

## *A Resolution Recommending Exemption of Federal Employees Serving Tribal Nations During a Government Shutdown*

### Resolution No. 25-21



Chuck Hoskin Jr.  
Principal Chief



Bill Anoatubby  
Governor



Gary Batton  
Chief



David W. Hill  
Principal Chief



Seno Yessloth  
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 877,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States has solemn trust and treaty obligations to Tribal Nations, which are carried out through both direct federal delivery of programs and services as well as the provision of federal funding that enables Tribal Nations to serve their citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the Nation-to-Nation relationship between the United States and Tribal governments requires continuity in the delivery of essential services such as healthcare, education, public safety, justice, housing, and economic development; and

**WHEREAS**, federal employees who directly serve Tribal Nations and Tribal communities are essential to upholding these trust and treaty responsibilities, ensuring that public safety is maintained, that healthcare continues without interruption, and that the economic stability of Tribal communities is preserved; and

**WHEREAS**, exempting these federal employees from any furloughs or reduction-in-force actions during a government shutdown is both authorized under existing federal law and consistent with the duty of the United States to protect the health, safety, and welfare of Tribal Nations and their citizens;

**NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT**, that the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes respectfully recommends that the Trump Administration ensure that federal employees serving Tribal Nations and Tribal communities are exempt from any furloughs or reduction-in-force actions during a government shutdown, including but not limited to the Departments of the Interior, Health and Human Services, and Agriculture; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes urges all federal agencies to recognize that such exemptions are essential to the fulfillment of the United States' trust responsibility, treaty obligations, and the Nation-to-Nation relationship.

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## CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Durant, Oklahoma on this 10 day of October, 2025, by a vote of 24 for 0 against and 0 abstentions.

Bill Anoatubby  
Bill Anoatubby, Governor  
The Chickasaw Nation

Gary Batton  
Gary Batton, Chief  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Sena Yesslith  
Sena Yesslith, Chief  
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

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

Chuck Hoskin Jr.  
Chuck Hoskin Jr., Principal Chief  
Cherokee Nation