

# The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

## *A Resolution Urging the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to Release Public Health Infrastructure Grant (PHIG) Funding to Tribes and to Ensure Public Health Funding is Awarded Directly to Tribal Governments*

### Resolution No. 25-23



Chuck Hoskin Jr.  
Principal Chief



Bill Anoatubby  
Governor



Gary Batton  
Chief



David W. Hill  
Principal Chief



Sena Yesslin  
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 ITC recognizes and acknowledges the inherent public health authority of the Five Civilized Tribes;

**WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as part of the U.S. Government, holds a federal trust responsibility to Tribal Nations and must ensure that funds appropriated by Congress for Tribal public health purposes are distributed equitably and without delay; and

**WHEREAS**, the CDC's Public Health Infrastructure Grant (PHIG) program was established to strengthen public health capacity and data modernization efforts across all jurisdictions, including Tribal governments; and

**WHEREAS**, under the current structure, the CDC has awarded funding to the National Network of Public Health Institutes (NNPHI), a non-Tribal intermediary, to administer PHIG subawards to Tribes for public health infrastructure and data modernization activities; and

**WHEREAS**, despite Tribes being approved awardees under this program, NNPHI has not released PHIG funding to Tribes, and Tribes have been instructed to pause PHIG-related activities, while state and local health departments have already received and are utilizing their PHIG funding; and

**WHEREAS**, this delay and inequitable treatment undermine Tribal efforts to build sustainable public health systems, disrupt critical program planning, and hinder long-term data modernization and infrastructure development needed to protect the health of Tribal citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, providing public health funding through third-party entities rather than directly to Tribal Nations is inconsistent with the federal government's trust and treaty obligations, diminishes Tribal sovereignty, and undermines the special nation-to-nation relationship between Tribes and the U.S. Government.

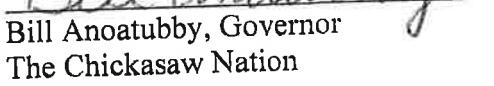
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**NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT**, that the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes strongly urges the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to immediately release the Public Health Infrastructure Grant (PHIG) funding to Tribes that have already been awarded funding, either directly from CDC or through immediate action requiring NNPHI to do so; and

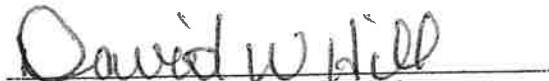
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Inter-Tribal Council urges the CDC and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to prioritize direct funding mechanisms for Tribal governments in all current and future public health programs, thereby affirming Tribal sovereignty, upholding the federal trust responsibility, and strengthening the nation-to-nation relationship.

## 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, Governor  
The Chickasaw Nation



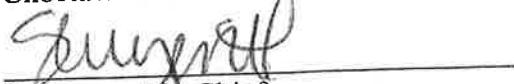
David W. Hill, Principal Chief  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation



Gary Batton, Chief  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma



Chuck Hoskin Jr., Principal Chief  
Cherokee Nation



Sena Yesslini, Chief  
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma