

# The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

## *A Resolution Celebrating Fifty Years of The Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975 (ISDEAA)*

### Resolution No. 25-29



Chuck Hoskin Jr.  
Principal Chief



Bill Anoatubby  
Governor



Gary Batton  
Chief



David W. Hill  
Principal Chief



Sena Yesslith  
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 Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA), Public Law 93-638, was signed into law on January 4, 1975, marking a historic shift in federal Indian policy from termination and paternalism to self-determination and self-governance; and

**WHEREAS,** the Act established mechanisms for Tribes to assume management of Department of the Interior and Indian Health Service programs, services, functions, and activities, ensuring the decisions affecting Native people are made at the local tribal level; and

**WHEREAS,** nearly all Tribal Nations operate programs through Self-Determination contracts, and more than 400 Tribal Nations and Tribal organizations now operate programs through Self-Governance compacts, delivering services more effectively, efficiently, and responsively than under federal management; and

**WHEREAS,** ISDEAA has fostered economic growth, led to improved health outcomes, stronger local economies, revitalized languages and cultures, and a renewed sense of community pride and purpose across Indian Country; and

**WHEREAS,** the success of ISDEAA has inspired the adoption of similar principles across the federal government, leading to the inclusion of ISDEAA-like authorities in other landmark legislation such as the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act and the Farm Bill of 2018, which have incorporated Tribal Self-Governance and Self-Determination provisions; and

**WHEREAS,** these legislative advances reflect a growing federal recognition that Tribal Nations are best positioned to design and deliver programs and services that meet the needs of their citizens, and demonstrate the broad influence of the ISDEAA framework in shaping modern federal Indian policy; and

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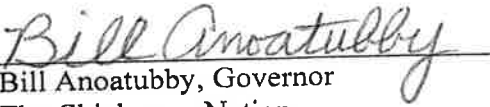
**WHEREAS,** on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the landmark legislation, citizens of both ITC member tribes and Indian Country at large celebrate a half century of Tribal innovation, leadership, and success in exercising the right of self-determination;

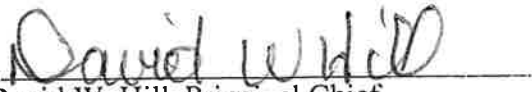
**NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT,** the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes celebrates the transformative impact the Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEA) has had in strengthening tribal sovereignty, building tribal capacity, and improving the quality of life for tribal citizens.


**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes.


## CERTIFICATION

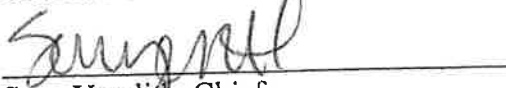
The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Durant, Oklahoma on this 10 day of October, 2025, by a vote of 24 for 0 against and 0 abstentions.

  
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 Yesslith, Chief  
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma