

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution in Support of Continued Use and Improvement of the American Community Survey (ACS) as the Data Source for the Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) Formula

Resolution No. 14-27



Bill John Baker
Principal Chief



Bill Anoatubby
Governor



Gary Batton
Principal Chief



George Tiger
Principal Chief



Leonard M. Harjo
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 over 500,000 Indian people throughout the United States, and

WHEREAS, the American Community Survey (ACS), which is the current source of data for the IHBG formula to determine native recipients eligibility for need based aid, is under consideration for being replaced by an alternative data collection source in order to remedy concerns with data collection methods and the IHBG formula; and

WHEREAS, in the manner of the previous Decennial Census, the ACS is collected by the US Department of Commerce, US Census Bureau; and

WHEREAS, with the ACS, identical data collection is performed across the entire United States, which is unlike any other available data source; and

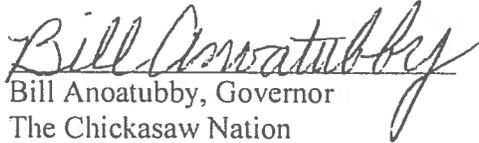
WHEREAS, the ACS is the only data method currently available that achieves the optimal balance of: 1) Acknowledgement of actual Tribal needs; 2) Equity among Tribes; 3) Minimal disruption of tribal housing programs; 4) Acknowledgment of tribal sovereignty; and 5) Practicality, including cost; and

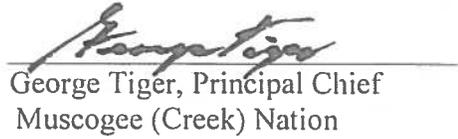
WHEREAS, while no data collection system is perfect, the greatest return on investment of any time, energy, and money to achieve enhancements of data collection would be through collaborative efforts of the Tribes, HUD, and the Census Bureau to perfect the ACS, rather than attempt to create a completely new process.

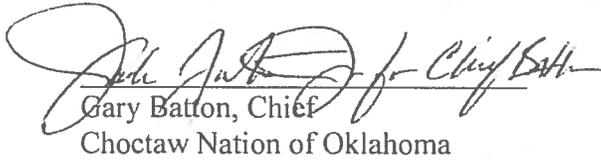
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on behalf of our people and in the interest of assuring consistent and fair availability of vitally important aid, we request that further efforts at data collection improvement remain focused on the current ACS method, and that the Tribes who rely on the IHBG program would be engaged in these reforms alongside HUD and the Census Bureau so that their needs are the main focus of any changes made.

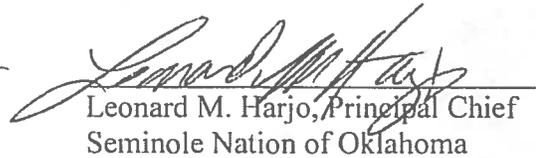
CERTIFICATION

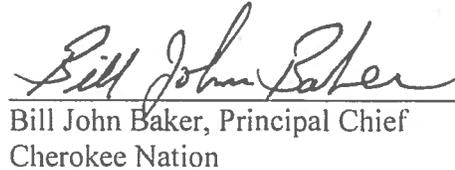
The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Durant, Oklahoma on this 10th day of October, 2014, by a vote of 5 for 0 against and 0 abstentions.


Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation


George Tiger, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation


Gary Batton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma


Leonard M. Harjo, Principal Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma


Bill John Baker, Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation