

March 20, 1967

Governor Overton James, President
The Inter-Tribal Council of the
Five Civilized Tribes of Oklahoma
6033 Glencove Place
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73132

Dear Governor Overton:

Thank you for sending us a copy of the Resolution adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes at your meeting at Arrowhead Lodge on March 2.

I share the Council's feeling that the Department of the Interior is better fitted to continue to discharge the obligations of trust which the United States has assumed in the management of Indian affairs and that this responsibility should not be transferred to any other Department without the Indians' knowledge and consent.

The Council's request for a public conference on this proposed transfer of the Bureau from the Department of the Interior to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare is completely reasonable. I am happy to forward a copy of the Resolution to the White House with a request that it be given careful consideration. Certainly, the Indian leaders of our nation should be given a full and free opportunity to express their views on this entire subject.

My warm personal regards and best wishes.

Sincerely,

CARL ALBERT, M.C.
Third District, Oklahoma

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CA/Wnu

March 20, 1967

The Honorable Henry Hall Wilson, Jr.
Administrative Assistant to
The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Henry:

I am enclosing a copy of a resolution which adopted by
The Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes
at a meeting at Arrowhead Lodge near Eufaula, Oklahoma,
on March 2, 1967.

You will note the resolution respectfully asks that a public
conference be held on the proposed transfer of the Bureau
of Indian Affairs from the Department to the Department of Health,
Education and Welfare in order that Indian leaders of the nation
may have an opportunity to express their views on the subject.

We will appreciate your calling this resolution to the attention
of appropriate persons with the request that it be given careful
consideration.

Sincerely,

CARL ALBERT, M.C.
Third District, Oklahoma

CA/Wnu

Enclosure

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL
of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

ORGANIZED FEBRUARY 3RD, 1950

March 7, 1967

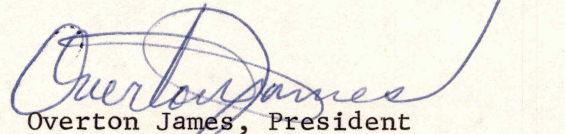
Honorable Carl Albert
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Albert:

There is forwarded to you Resolution adopted by The Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes in special called session on March 2, 1967, at Arrowhead Lodge near Eufaula, Oklahoma.

This Resolution is forwarded for your consideration and favorable action.

Sincerely yours,


Overton James, President
The Inter-Tribal Council of the
Five Civilized Tribes of Oklahoma

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PRESIDENT

OVERTON JAMES
6033 GLENCOVE PLACE
OKLA. CITY, OKLA. 73132

VICE PRESIDENT

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SASAKWA, OKLA. 74867

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REV. JIM PICKUP
BOX 202
TAHLEQUAH, OKLA. 74464

ALTERNATE CHAPLAIN

DR. B. FRANK BELVIN
517 SOUTH WOODLAWN
OKMULGEE, OKLA. 74447



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes is established for the purpose of enlightening the public toward a better understanding of the Indian race; to preserve Indian cultural values; to enhance and promote general educational opportunity among members of the Five Civilized Tribes; to seek an equitable adjustment of tribal affairs; to secure and to preserve rights under Indian treaties with the United States; and otherwise to promote the common welfare of the American Indians;

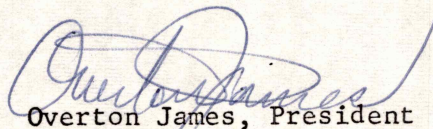
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson, our President, and the honorable members of the Congress of the United States be informed that this representative body and the Indians they represent have had no opportunity to make known their views in respect to the proposal to transfer the Bureau of Indian Affairs from the Department of the Interior to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That their historic treaty relationships to the Government is unlike that of any other segment of the American people, and their claim for consideration and sympathy has never rested upon the basis of charity, but upon treaties of cessions which provide ample justification for a wholly different treatment of their people than that which underlies the remedial actions undertaken by the United States to solve the economic and social problems of other citizens;

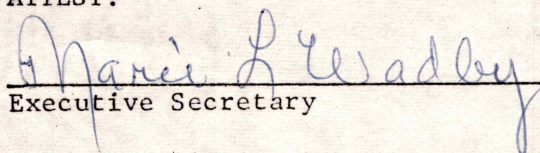
THAT the Department of the Interior from long experience is better fitted to continue to discharge the obligations of trust which the United States has assumed in the management of Indian affairs, including their land, minerals, timber and other valuable resources; and this responsibility should not be transferred to any other Department without the Indians' knowledge and consent and especially such interests should be withheld from the hands of social experimenters until all essential facts are known.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the President and the members of the Oklahoma Congressional delegation be and they are hereby most respectfully urged to hold a public conference on the proposal of transfer of said Bureau and that the Indian leaders of this Nation be given a full and free opportunity to express their views on the entire subject, including the source of the proposal.

Adopted at Arrowhead Lodge near Eufaula, Oklahoma, in special called session of said Council on the 2nd day of March, 1967.


Overton James, President
The Inter-Tribal Council of the
Five Civilized Tribes of Oklahoma

ATTEST:


Executive Secretary