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CHEROKEE COUNCIL HOUSE
CHEROKEE, NORTH CAROLINA

Date: _____

RESOLUTION NO. _____ (2026)

A resolution to authorize the Tribe to conduct a census to for the purpose of adjusting Tribal Council voting weights.

WHEREAS, Section 19 of the Charter and Governing Document imposes the weighted voting requirement on Tribal Council and requires that a census be conducted to determine the voting weight to be attributed to Tribal Council representatives from each township; and

WHEREAS, the requirements of Section 19 of the Charter and Governing Document are also expressed in CC Section 117-12; and

WHEREAS, both the Charter and the Cherokee Code the following in part:

“After the regular 1981 Tribal election and each ten years thereafter, the Tribal Council, at its first regular meeting, shall determine the total number of votes to be cast in the Tribal Council and shall allot a voting weight to each Council member. The individual voting weight shall be determined by computing the mathematical ratio, fraction or proportion that exists between the number of enrolled Tribal members residing in each township and the total number of enrolled members.”

WHEREAS, determining the voting weight to be given to each Tribal Council member requires knowing: (1) the number of enrolled Tribal members residing in each township; and (2) the total number of enrolled Tribal members regardless of where they live; and then calculating the ratio of the former to the latter; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe has not conducted a census suitable for this purpose and has not adjusted Tribal Council voting weights since 2001, when Resolution No. 20 (2001) was passed; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe should conduct a census to gather the necessary information to adjust voting weights for Tribal Council, and with the information obtained should adjust voting weights.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Tribal Council of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, in Council assembled at which a quorum is present, that the Tribe shall fund and conduct, or shall contract with others to conduct, a census for the purposes expressed in Section 19 of the Charter and Governing Document and

1 CC Section 117-12, that is, to adjust the weight to be given to Tribal Council
2 representatives from each township.
3

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the Tribe's Enrollment Office has the required
5 information and such information is deemed by Tribal Council to satisfy the
6 requirements of the Charter and of the Cherokee Code provide an accurate count
7 of how many enrolled Tribal members reside in each township vs. how many
8 enrolled Tribal members exist regardless of where they reside, then the Tribe may
9 use the such information to adjust Tribal Council voting weights.
10

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Tribal Council and the Principal Chief shall identify the
12 persons and Tribal programs that are primarily responsible for moving this project
13 forward.
14

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if it is necessary to contract for services to conduct a census
16 or otherwise gather the information necessary to carry out the purpose of this
17 resolution, then the cost for the contact(s) shall be paid from the General Fund.
18

19 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that all prior resolutions that are inconsistent with this resolution
20 are hereby rescinded and this resolution shall be effective upon ratification by the
21 Principal Chief.
22
23

24 *Submitted by Tribal Council.*