

Cherokee Council House  
Cherokee, North Carolina

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_(2025)

*A resolution authorizing individual one-time payments of \$50.00 to Tribal Elders 59 ½ and older who sign and record a last will and testament with the Tribal Realty Services Office or the clerk's office of the Cherokee Court after October 1, 2025.*

WHEREAS, last will and testaments are critical estate planning tools that ensure that the wishes of the Tribe's enrolled members are honored; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to promote the benefits of drafting and signing of last will and testaments among the Tribe's elders such as naming their beneficiaries to prevent fractionation of property, avoiding any future family disputes, and distributing assets to their loved ones as they see fit; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe's Legal Assistance Office offers free services to enrolled members to prepare their last will and testaments, but there is still a need to offer further incentives; and

WHEREAS, to promote more Tribal elders preparing last will and testaments, this resolution would authorize one-time payments in the amount of \$50.00 to individual enrolled members over 59 ½ who record their last will and testament with the Tribal Realty Services Office or file it with the clerk's office of the Cherokee Court and show proof of recording or filing to the Tribal Finance Office.

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 Tribal Council hereby authorizes individual one-time payments of \$50.00 to Tribal Elders 59 ½ and older who sign and record a last will and testament with the Tribal Realty Services Office or file with the clerk's office of the Cherokee Court after October 1, 2025, and submit proof of recording or filing to the Tribal Finance Office.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the individual payments of \$50.00 to qualifying enrolled members shall come from the fund balance of \_\_\_\_\_.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that all resolutions that are inconsistent with this resolution are rescinded, and that this resolution shall become effective when ratified by the Principal Chief.

*Submitted by the Tribal Lands Committee*