

CHEROKEE COUNCIL HOUSE
CHEROKEE, NORTH CAROLINA

DATE: _____

RESOLUTION NO.: _____

A resolution to name Dr. Martha Salyers, MD, MPH, as an Honorary Member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

WHEREAS, it has been a tradition of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians to give special recognition to individuals who are not enrolled members of the Tribe but who have, over the years, contributed extraordinary time and energy to the Tribe and its members and have earned a place in the hearts of Tribal members; and

WHEREAS, the ultimate expression of recognition is for the Tribe to name a person as an Honorary Member of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the title of Honorary Member does not provide any legal or financial benefit to the recipient, but is instead an expression of appreciation and respect by the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martha Salyers, MD, MPH, deserves to be named an Honorary Member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Salyers has brought a lifetime of commitment to public health, with decades of service spanning direct patient care, public health leadership, emergency preparedness, epidemiology, and policy development; and

WHEREAS, since June 2011, Dr. Salyers has dedicated herself to the Cherokee people, particularly through her work with the Public Health and Human Services Division, where she brought her vast expertise to support and guide transformational efforts in Tribal public health; and

WHEREAS, as a medical doctor, friend, and advocate, she consistently elevated the strengths and cultural values of the Cherokee people and generously shared the fruits of her labor with the community; and

WHEREAS, she collaborated with PHHS leadership and community members to conduct a maternal/child health assessment to help select and launch a new maternal and child home visiting program now known as Nurse-Family Partnership; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Salyers was instrumental in leading infrastructure development to pursue National Public Health Accreditation, including the development of Tribal public

1 health laws, strategic planning, Tribal Health Assessments, Tribal Health
2 Improvement Plans, and the facilitation of numerous community and interagency
3 meetings; and
4

5 *WHEREAS, Dr. Salyers' previous roles—as Medical Director of the Buncombe County Health*
6 *Department, Team Leader of Public Health Regional Surveillance Team 6, and*
7 *advisor to national agencies on preparedness and epidemiology—brought*
8 *unparalleled public health insight and strengthened the foundation of EBCI's*
9 *public health system; and*
10

11 *WHEREAS, her leadership as the Tribe's Accreditation Coordinator was central to EBCI*
12 *PHHS achieving National Public Health Accreditation, which cultivated over a*
13 *decade of dedicated service and vision for Tribal public health excellence.*
14

15 *NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Tribal Council of the Eastern Band of Cherokee*
16 *Indians, in Council assembled and with a quorum present, that in appreciation*
17 *for, and recognition of, her friendship and selfless contributions to the Cherokee*
18 *people over many years, the Tribe hereby bestows upon Dr. Martha Salyers, MD,*
19 *MPH, the title of Honorary Member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.*
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21 *BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that all resolutions inconsistent with this resolution are*
22 *hereby rescinded, and that this resolution shall become effective upon ratification*
23 *by the Principal Chief.*
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27 *Submitted by: Sheena Kanott Lambert, MPH, Public Health Director*
28 *EBCI Public Health and Human Services Division*