

Cherokee Council House  
Cherokee, NC  
Dates \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_ (2019)

- WHEREAS: Tribal Council is committed to support the preservation and expansion of our Tribal Health System; and
- WHEREAS: Congress has habitually failed to adequately fund the Indian Health Service resulting in Tribal Health systems across the country being under-funded at near 50% of the true level of need; and
- WHEREAS: Congress has authorized Tribal Health systems to bill and collect reimbursement from Medicare and Medicaid as a means to supplement the grossly inadequate Indian Health Service appropriations; and
- WHEREAS: Revenues from these sources now compromise more than one third of the Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority's budget, making the maximization of Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements critical to providing equitable health services to those served by CIHA in Western North Carolina; and
- WHEREAS: The Affordable Care Act, which permanently authorized the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, is being challenged in the US Supreme Court as unconstitutional; and
- WHEREAS: The North Carolina General Assembly will consider new legislation known as "North Carolina Cares" to expand Medicaid's reach during this session that will likely impose conditional work and community engagement requirements that Tribes across the nation, including the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, believe are contrary to the United States trust obligations to Indian Tribes; and
- WHEREAS: Tribal Council endorses these issues as a legislative and lobbying priority for the Tribe through the exercise of the Principal Chief's duties to protect and preserve the rights of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in Council assembled, at which a quorum is present that the Principal Chief shall use appropriate means to best advocate at the state and national level to maximize federal funding for tribal health care services, including but not limited to the pursuit of an exemption from work and community engagement requirements that may be adopted by the North Carolina General Assembly, and the preservation and maximization of reimbursement from all third party resources, especially Medicare and Medicaid.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be effective upon ratification by the Principal Chief of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

Submitted by: Principal Chief Sneed