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PEORIA TRIBE

OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

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CHIEF
Paul J. Attocknie Jr.

SECOND CHIEF
Vacant

R-03-04-25-B

“RESOLUTION ADVANCING EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES FOR NATIVE CHILDREN AND UPHOLDING THE FEDERAL TRUST RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT TRIBAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS”

WHEREAS, the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma is a federally recognized Indian Tribe organized under the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936, and is governed by its Constitution approved by the Acting Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs on August 13, 1997; and

WHEREAS, the Business Committee of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma is authorized to enact resolutions and act on behalf of the Peoria Tribe under Article VIII, Section 2, of the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the United States has a clear trust and treaty responsibility to Tribal Nations for the education of Indian children, as established through the U.S. Constitution and treaties, and reaffirmed in statutes, executive actions, and judicial decisions; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) within the Department of the Interior (DOI) and the Department of Education administer critical programs supporting Native students, rooted in treaties, federal laws, and case precedents, including the Snyder Act of 1921, the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975, the Tribally Controlled Schools Act of 1988, the Johnson O’Malley Act of 1935, P.L. 81-874 (1950), Title VI of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, and the Indian Education Act of 1972; and

WHEREAS, the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma shares many priorities with the current Administration in ensuring that federal education funds are used effectively, that education is directed by local communities and parents, that unnecessary federal regulations are minimized, that federal funding mechanisms are streamlined, and that Tribal economic engines are strengthened; and

WHEREAS, the potential restructuring or dismantling of the U.S. Department of Education poses significant threats to the stability and accessibility of these vital resources guaranteed through trust and treaty obligations; and

WHEREAS, the United States’ trust and treaty responsibilities to Indian Country are mandatory obligations, not discretionary budget items, and must not be subject to defunding or elimination; and

WHEREAS, the Tribally Controlled Schools Act declares that "a national goal of the United States is to provide the resources, processes, and structure that will enable tribes and local communities to obtain the quantity and quality of educational services that will permit Indian children to compete and excel in areas of their choice; and to achieve the measure of self-determination essential to their social and economic well-being;" and

WHEREAS, the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma requests that the Administration issue exemptions to any federal policies that would undermine the federal government's trust responsibility in Indian Country, including but not limited to Indian education programs; and

WHEREAS, past initiatives, such as the Great American Outdoors Act and the Executive Order on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons, have demonstrated the Administration's commitment to Tribal Nations, and the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma is committed to continuing this partnership to address the challenges facing Indian education; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma urges the President and Congress to uphold the federal trust responsibility by ensuring the continuation of all Tribal-specific education programs, including those with Tribal set-asides; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any changes to the administration of federal education programs must include meaningful consultation with Tribal Nations and ensure that funding mechanisms remain intact for the benefit of Native students; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma shall direct the appropriate tribal officials to engage with federal agencies and legislative bodies to advocate for the protection and continuation of these critical education programs.

CERTIFICATION

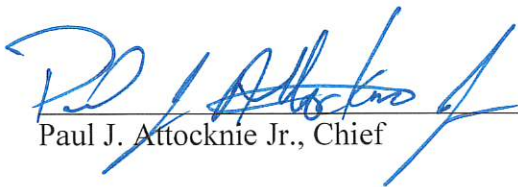
The foregoing resolution numbered **R-03-04-25-B**, “**Resolution Advancing Educational Outcomes for Native Children and Upholding the Federal Trust Responsibility to Protect Tribal Education Programs**”, was presented and discussed at a duly called regular meeting of the Peoria Tribal Business Committee held on this **4th** day of **March 2025**, with a recorded vote of:

5 For, 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions

By cast of majority vote, Resolution Number **R-03-04-25-B** does hereby _____.

Pass/Fail

This **4th** day of **March 2025**.


Paul J. Attocknie Jr., Chief

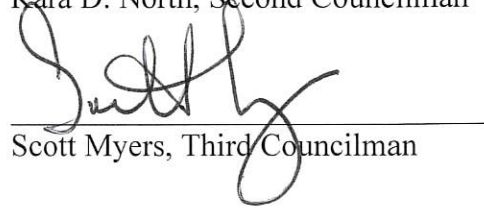
Vacant, Second Chief


Jenny Rampey, Secretary


Jason Dollarhide, Treasurer


Nicholas Hargrove, First Councilman


Kara D. North, Second Councilman


Scott Myers, Third Councilman

