



Council of the Cherokee Nation

Cherokee Nation Tribal
Council
17763 S. Muskogee Ave.
Tahlequah, OK 74464

Legislation Text

File #: 09-077, Version: 1

A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NUMBER 74-88, ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL TREASURES PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Cherokee Nation since time immemorial has exercised the sovereign rights of self-government in behalf of the Cherokee people;

WHEREAS, the Cherokee Nation is a federally recognized Indian Nation with a historic and continual government to government relationship with the United States of America;

WHEREAS, Resolution Number 74-88 was enacted establishing the “Living National Treasures-Master Craftsman Series of the Lost Arts Program” on August 13, 1988;

WHEREAS, all elected and appointed officers of the Nation are bound by oath to promote the culture, heritage and traditions of the Cherokee Nation (Cherokee Constitution, Article XIII Section 1);

WHEREAS, the Cherokee Nation is committed to retaining and perpetuating the cultural identity of the Cherokee Nation through promotion and acknowledgment of its national cultural treasures;

WHEREAS, the National Treasure designation will achieve this objective by official acknowledgement and recognition of the best individual examples of the Cherokee culture. This will be accomplished by recognizing those individual persons who have made major contributions or a lifetime commitment of perpetuating the Cherokee culture;

WHEREAS, up to three (3) National Treasures will be recognized each year, based upon recommendations from an Advisory Committee to the Principal Chief;

WHEREAS, the chosen National Treasure(s) must be a Cherokee citizen(s);

WHEREAS, at least one individual designated per year must be a traditional artist/craftsperson, and at least one per year must be from the Nation’s 14-county jurisdictional area;

WHEREAS, except for the foregoing, there will be no residency restriction on the National Treasures;

WHEREAS, the Cherokee National Historical Society is continuing its partnership with the Cherokee Nation to house the documentation of this activity in the National archives.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CHEROKEE NATION, that the program is hereby renamed the Cherokee National Treasures program; that the National Treasure Program shall be instituted as a sanctioned activity of the Cherokee Nation; that a five-member Advisory Committee for the National Treasure Program shall be created to provide guidance on activities and services which enhance and preserve Cherokee culture; that such committee members shall be nominated and confirmed according to Legislative Act 30-04;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CHEROKEE NATION, that the Principal Chief or his/her designee is hereby authorized to develop policies and procedures effectuating this program according to this enactment;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED BY THE CHEROKEE NATION, that the chosen National Treasure (s) shall be bestowed with the honor as an official national designation and recognized during the Cherokee Nation National Holiday and in a Tribal Council Meeting.