



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Legislation Text

File #: 19-037, **Version:** 1

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS DISASTER ASSISTANCE FUND

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

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; and

WHEREAS, in May and June of 2019, a period of severe rainfall caused catastrophic flooding along the Arkansas River, resulting in immense destruction in all 77 counties of the state of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, the area of highest impact is home to thousands of Cherokee Nation citizens, partners, and tribal brethren, resulting in massive damage to our critical infrastructure and systems throughout our territorial jurisdiction of the Cherokee Nation; and

WHEREAS, Principal Chief Bill John Baker declared a state of emergency on May 22nd, 2019 to protect public health, reduce further damage, ensure public safety, and render emergency relief; and

WHEREAS, on May 24th, 2019, Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt also declared a state of emergency; and on May 25th, 2019, President of the United States Donald Trump approved a disaster declaration for several counties in Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Indian Affairs administers Disaster Assistance Funds to assist tribes with immediate and short-term assistance efforts during a disaster;

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CHEROKEE NATION, we request assistance from the Bureau of Indian Affairs Disaster Assistance in accordance with 25 CFR § 20.327 and § 20.328 for short-term relief from the disaster