



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Legislation Text

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A JOINT COUNCIL RESOLUTION REQUESTING ASSISTANCE FOR THE TRANSLATION OF MORAVIAN DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO THE CHEROKEE PEOPLE

the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and the Cherokee Nation have exercised the sovereign rights of self-governance on behalf of the Cherokee People since time immemorial; and

both Tribes have a vested interest in preserving our Cherokee culture and learning more about our Cherokee history, and;

the Moravian Church was the first church to establish a permanent mission site among the Cherokee people in 1801, and their missionaries had extensive interaction with the Cherokee people; and

these missionaries wrote journals and letters concerning their experiences and reflections on our Cherokee ancestors' life ways, and these early documents were written in Archaic German script which was outlawed in the 1930's. and there are few people today that can read this script; and

both Tribes would benefit from the historical knowledge and information contained within these collections, which number in the tens of thousands: and

WHEREAS, the Cherokee Nation has pledged \$25,000 per year for the next five years to finance the translation of these documents by the Moravian Church archivist and archivist's assistant; and

WHEREAS, the Moravian Archives has pledged to devote at least 32 hours per week to the translation of the documents, and prepare them for publication. there is a need for an additional \$25,000 per year for the next five years to cover these costs; and

WHEREAS, these documents will be prepared and presented for publication and use by the Cherokee people, historians, and interested parties to gain a better understanding of Cherokee history and culture during the period the Moravian Church had contact with our Cherokee ancestors; and

WHEREAS, the Eastern Band is devoted to obtaining the information contained within these documents and desires to assist the Moravian Church in obtaining adequate funding for the completion of these translations.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Joint Council assembled, at which a quorum is present, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and the Cherokee Nation hereby publicly declare support for the Moravian Archives Translation Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Eastern Band will research and request funding to supplement the

Cherokee Nation's financial commitment to this project, as both Tribes will benefit from this historic information.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and the Cherokee Nation shall insure that this joint legislation is fulfilled.

Submitted by: Cherokee Nation Council Representative Jack Baker