

## Council of the Cherokee Nation

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## A RESOLUTION REQUESTING BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS DISASTER ASSISTANCE FUND

WHEREAS, the Cherokee Nation since time immemorial has exercised the sovereign rights of selfgovernment 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 countries 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 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 to protect public health, reduce further damage, ensure public safety, and render emergency relief; and

WHEREAS, on May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt also declared a state of emergency; and on May 25<sup>th</sup>, 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