

Legislation Text

File #: 14-016, Version: 1

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING CHEROKEE NATION CITIZEN BARBARA J. WILLIAMS

WHEREAS, the Cherokee Nation since time immemorial has exercised the sovereign rights of selfgovernment 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, Williams began her service to Cherokee Citizens by working for the Cherokee Nation in 1977 in the Tribal Registration Department. Since then she has been actively involved in the wellness of adolescents, specifically in the area of teen pregnancy prevention; a certified HIV/AIDS counselor, educator and tester certified by the American Red Cross, an Internationally Certified Prevention Specialist through the Oklahoma Drug and Alcohol Professional Counselor Association and is a founding member of both the Green Country AIDS Coalition and the HIV Education and Resource Training (HEART) Coalition; and,

WHEREAS, she has been a trainer and speaker at a number of events related to her career activities and initiatives, including delivering a keynote in Thunder Bay, Canada which was one of the first HIV retreats held in that country; and,

WHEREAS, Williams regularly travels throughout the 14 county jurisdiction of the Cherokee Nation teaching hygiene and puberty development for elementary students; providing a program on teen relationships and promoting abstinence to teens in public schools; and presenting her program "Date But Wait", which is recognized by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA); and,

WHEREAS, Williams was recognized by the Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Service Area Director's Length of Service Award for 35 years of service in 2013; and,

WHEREAS, the Council of the Cherokee Nation wants to recognize Barbara J. Williams, for all her dedication and work to provide information and assistance to Cherokee Citizens to help improve their lives and prepare Cherokee teens for a healthy life; and therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CHEROKEE NATION, the Council of the Cherokee Nation hereby recognizes Barbara J. Williams, for her dedication and work to provide information and assistance to Cherokee Nation Citizens to help improve their lives, seek appropriate care for many health conditions and prepare Cherokee teens for a long and healthy life.