



SOUTHERN PLAINS TRIBAL HEALTH BOARD

Serving Tribes and Indian Organizations throughout Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas since 1972

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-05

PURPOSE: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND TRIBES AND PROTECTING TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY

- WHEREAS,** the Southern Plains Tribal Health Board (SPTHB) since 1972 serves as a unified voice for health-related interests of 44 federally recognized tribes situated in the Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Service region encompassing the states of Kansas, Oklahoma and a portion of Texas.
- WHEREAS,** Since the formation of the Union, the United States (U.S.) has recognized Indian tribes as sovereign nations; and
- WHEREAS,** A unique government-to-government relationship exists between Indian Tribes and the Federal Government and this relationship is grounded in the U.S. Constitution, numerous treaties, statutes, Federal case law, regulations, executive orders, and the political and legal relationship that Indian Tribes have with the Federal Government and is not based on race; and
- WHEREAS,** the SPTHB will support the unique government-to-government relationship between Indian Tribes and the Federal Government and promote and protect Tribal Sovereignty; and
- WHEREAS,** that SPTHB will continue to educate the States, as well as the federal government, whether it be members of Congress or the Administration, on the unique political status of Tribes, the Trust responsibility, and the resulting special provisions and protections accorded American Indians on this basis and not that of race; and
- WHEREAS,** American Indians do not qualify for work requirements under the unique government-to-government relationship between Indian Tribes and the Federal Government which protects Tribal Sovereignty, and
- WHEREAS,** Tribal sovereignty is recognized in the US Constitution in Article VI, Clause 2 of the United States Constitution says: “This constitution, and the Laws of the United States

which shall be made in pursuance thereof, and all treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land; and the judges in every state shall be bound thereby, anything in the constitution or laws of any state to the contrary notwithstanding.”

WHEREAS, American Indian treaties are agreements made between sovereign entities and the U.S. has signed several hundred treaties with Indigenous nations and other nations around the world and

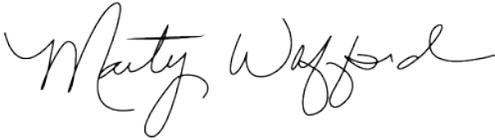
WHEREAS therefore, by signing a treaty, both sides are showing they recognize the sovereignty of the other, as the treaty spells out how each nation will relate to the other nations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the SPTHB will continue to advocate for the unique political status of Tribes, their members, and promote and protect that political status and take all action possible and practical to uphold that political status and prevent policymaking at the federal level that misinterprets federal policy impacting Tribes based on race.

CERTIFICATION

Voted on and affirmed this 12th day of **April 2018**, with the following voting

ATTESTED BY:



4-10-18

Chair

Date



4-10-18

Vice-Chair

Date



4-10-18

Secretary

Date



4-10-18

Treasurer

Date