

**TO APPROVE AN APPLICATION TO REQUEST FUNDS FROM HHS FOR A COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT & QUALITY FUNDS FOR FY 2021 FOR THE CHOCTAW NATION EARLY HEAD START PROGRAM**

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**IN THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CHOCTAW NATION**

**RONALD PERRY INTRODUCED THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL BILL**

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**A COUNCIL BILL**

**TO APPROVE**, an application to receive a Cost of Living Adjustment & Quality Funding for the 2021 fiscal year for the Choctaw Nation Early Head Start Program.

**WHEREAS**, funds are made available to American Indian and Alaskan Native Early Head Start Programs by the Department of Health & Human Services Administration for Children and Families Office of Head Start ("HHS");

**WHEREAS**, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma (the "Nation") has been awarded funds by HHS since 2015 to use for the Choctaw Nation Early Head Start Program ("Early Head Start");

**WHEREAS**, the Nation seeks to apply to HHS for funds in the amount of \$95,938 for FY 2021;

**WHEREAS**, Early Head Start will use \$40,938.00 of those funds for a cost of living adjustment (COLA) to adjust staff salaries;

**WHEREAS**, the Nation's Early Head Start will use \$55,000 for Quality Funding to improve the quality of services and will only be used for approved-purposes such : expanding mental health services, increase classroom quality, strengthen family services, support a trauma-informed workforce, and create a program-wide trauma-informed environment;

**WHEREAS**, these funds do require a twenty-five percent (25%) match in the amount of \$23,985, however, the Nation is requesting the federal match be waived due to the global pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the Nation to approve application to HHS to receive COLA and QUALITY funds for the Early Head Start Program for FY 2021.

**THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED** by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma that this bill be cited as approval to apply to the Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families Office of Head Start, American Indian and Alaskan Native Early Head Start Programs, for funds in the amount of ninety five thousand nine hundred thirty-eight dollars (\$95,938) for cost of living adjustments and Quality funds for the Choctaw Nation Early Head Start Program for Fiscal Year 2021. See Exhibit 1.

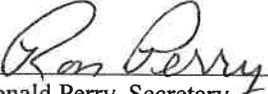
**BE IT FURTHER ENACTED** by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma that this bill be cited as approval to apply to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for a waiver of total non-federal share for the carryover funds due to the global pandemic.

**CERTIFICATION**

*I, the undersigned, as speaker of the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of twelve (12) seats. Eight (8) members must be present to constitute a quorum. I further certify that twelve (12) members answered roll call and that a quorum was present at the Regular Session of the Tribal Council at Tuskahoma, Oklahoma on May 9, 2020. I further certify that the foregoing Council Bill CB- 76 -20 was adopted at such*

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meeting by the affirmative vote of twelve ( 12 ) members, zero ( 0 ) negative votes, and  
zero ( 0 ) abstaining.

  
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Ronald Perry, Secretary  
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council

  
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Thomas Williston, Speaker  
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Batton, Chief  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Date 5-14-2020

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**Purpose/Need of Council Bill:** The purpose of this bill is to approve an Application to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), to receive COLA & Quality Funding for the upcoming fiscal year. HHS requires an application to identify use of the funds. If allowed, the Early Head Start Program could receive \$95,938. \$40,938 for COLA & \$55,000 for Quality Improvement Funds to be used for Early Head Start salaries and Trauma Informed Initiatives.

**Title of Council Bill: TO APPROVE AN APPLICATION TO REQUEST A COLA & QUALITY FUNDS  
FOR FY 2021 FOR THE CHOCTAW NATION EARLY HEAD START PROGRAM**

**Agency:** Early Head Start Program

**Budget:** Up to \$95,938 pending DHHS approval.

**Match Required:** 25% match in the amount of \$23,985 has been WAIVED Due to COVID-19

**Request by Project Director:** B.J. Robinson-Ellison, Program Director of Early Head Start Program, Teresa Jackson, SEO of Member Services