

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NOMINATION OF MASON EMERT TO SERVE ON THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY**

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

**RONALD PERRY INTRODUCED THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

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**A COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**TO APPROVE** a Resolution supporting the nomination of Mason Emert, Choctaw Nation Health Services Authority Epidemiologist, to serve as a member of the United States Department of Health and Human Services National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality as a representative of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

**WHEREAS**, the United States Department of Health and Human Services (“HHS”) solicits nominations for the National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality;

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Article VII, Section 2 of the Constitution of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma (the “Nation”), the Chief has the power to “establish and appoint committees, members and delegates to represent the Choctaw Nation with the advice and consent of the Tribal Council.”;

**WHEREAS**, Chief Gary Batton nominates Mason Emert, Epidemiologist and tribal member, to serve as a member of the HHS National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality to represent the Nation, its medical professionals, healthcare system, communities, Choctaw Nation tribal members, and rural America and Indian Country as a whole;

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Emert’s education and experience as well as his commitment to serving in public health qualify and distinguish him for this role;

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma supports efforts to build and grow its Nation-to-Nation relationship with the United States of America, grow the Nation’s relationship and partnership with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and build strong relationships with other tribal nations, states, and medical facilities and professionals to grow our healthcare services and meet the unique health needs of rural America and Indian Country;

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Emert is highly qualified and equipped to serve in this position due to his commitment to serving tribal members and utilizing his skillset to provide fact-based research to understand community needs, determinants of health in the Choctaw Nation, and to creating a robust Public Health Department to serve our healthcare system and its patients. Mr. Emert has worked for the Choctaw Nation while obtaining his degrees, and is now in a leadership role with its health system. He brings this experience with tribal and rural healthcare, as well as experience working with the National Foundation for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to this new role. Mr. Emert was born and raised in the Choctaw Nation and has been a patient, employee, and community member, and therefore understands rural healthcare and health needs in Indian Country. He will provide a unique and well-researched voice to this national role; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma has determined it is in the best interest of the Nation to support the nomination of Mr. Mason Emert to serve on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality as a representative of the Nation.


**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma that this Resolution be cited as approval supporting the nomination of Mr. Mason Emert to serve on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality.

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**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 13, 2023. I further certify that the foregoing Council Resolution CR- 20 -23 was adopted at such 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

  
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Gary Batton, Chief  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Date 5-16-23

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**Purpose/Need of Council Resolution:** The purpose of this Resolution is to support the nomination of Mason Emert, Choctaw Nation tribal member and Choctaw Nation Health Services Authority Epidemiologist, to serve as a member of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality as a representative of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. Mr. Emert is the Epidemiologist for CNHSA and is helping to establish the Public Health Department. His role on this committee would positively affect healthcare for Choctaw people and Indigenous people around the country. There is no current representation from Indian Country or Rural America, two categories identified in the Federal Register Notice as needed on this council. If appointed, Mr. Emert would represent not only Choctaw Nation, but Indian Country and Rural America as a whole to provide a valuable voice in this national role. Mr. Emert would bring a unique skill set and dedication to underserved populations and help with improving quality of life and medical services for our people and others in Indian Country and Rural America. It would give the Nation a voice on this national committee and fulfill strategic goals of getting Natives appointed to federal positions and strengthen tribal sovereignty through this effort.

**Title of Council Resolution: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NOMINATION OF MASON EMERT TO SERVE ON THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY**

**Agency:** Government Relations

**Budget:** N/A

**Match Required:** N/A

**Request by:** Brian McClain, Executive Director Government Relations; John Hobbs, SEO Communications