

TO APPROVE APPLICATION FOR THE FY25 VETERANS CEMETERY GRANTS PROGRAM

IN THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CHOCTAW NATION

JAMES DRY INTRODUCED THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL BILL

A COUNCIL BILL

TO APPROVE the application to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs FY25 Veterans Cemetery Grants Program (FON #VA-NCA-VCGP-2025).

WHEREAS, the Choctaw Nation (the "Nation") recognizes the value of Tribal Veterans and the preserving the dignity of the Veterans and their spouses in their final place of rest;

WHEREAS, the maximum requested federal budget is \$10,000,000.00 with no required tribal match;

WHEREAS, funds for the Veterans Cemetery Grants Program will be used to construct 2 columbarium within the Tuskahoma Veterans Cemetery to house up to 100 individual units each to house the ashes of Choctaw Veterans and their spouses, as well as various maintenance renovations to the cemetery;

WHEREAS, funds for the Veterans Cemetery Grants Program will be used to construct a pavilion within the Tuskahoma Veterans Cemetery to allow for an indoor facility for cemetery guests and staff;

WHEREAS, funds for the Veterans Cemetery Grants Program will be used to construct a drainage system within the Tuskahoma Veterans Cemetery to resolve flooding issues in the cemetery and better irrigate the Veteran's Cemetery grounds;

WHEREAS, funds for the Veterans Cemetery Grants Program will be used to repair the perimeter fencing within the Tuskahoma Veterans Cemetery to reinforce the cemetery boundaries, as well as other various renovations to the cemetery; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma authorizes the maintenance and operation of the already established Veterans Cemetery in Tvshka Homma in accordance with 38 CFR 39.10(a).

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 United States Department of Veterans Affairs FY25 Veterans Cemetery Grants Program (FON #VA-NCA-VCGP-2025) for a maximum requested federal budget of \$10,000,000.00 (Ten Million Dollars and 00/100) with no tribal match.

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Council that this Bill be cited as authorization for the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma to maintain and operate the existing Veterans Cemetery located in Tuskahoma in accordance with 38 CFR 39.10(a).

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Council that this Bill be cited as an acknowledgement that the Chief of the Nation, or his designee, is authorized to prepare, execute, deliver and file any and all agreements, certificates, instruments and documents, in such form and with such terms and provisions as the Chief of the Nation, or his designee, may approve, and to take such other action as he, she or they may deem proper or appropriate, to carry out the intent and purposes of the foregoing enactments.

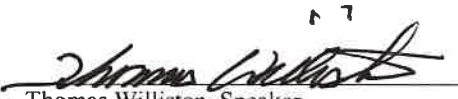
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CERTIFICATION

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 eleven (11) members answered roll call and that a quorum was present at the Regular Session of the Tribal Council at Tvshka Homma, Oklahoma on June 14, 2025. I further certify that the foregoing Council Bill CB- 72 -25 was adopted at such meeting by the affirmative vote of eleven (11) members, zero (0) negative votes, and zero (0) abstaining.


James Dry, Secretary
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council

Date 6-18-25


Thomas Williston, Speaker
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council


Gary Patton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

TO APPROVE APPLICATION FOR THE FY25 VETERANS CEMETERY GRANTS PROGRAM

Purpose/Need of Council Bill: To approve the application to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs FY25 Veterans Cemetery Grants Program. Funds will be used to construct a columbarium in the Tuskahoma Veterans Cemetery to house up to 100 individual units for Veterans and their spouses' ashes as well as other specified maintenance items for the cemetery.

Strategic Goal: This grant program will meet the strategic plan objective of protecting and promoting Choctaw culture and exercising sovereignty for our Tribal Veterans.

Title of Council Bill: **TO APPROVE APPLICATION FOR THE FY25 VETERANS CEMETERY GRANTS PROGRAM**

Agency: Department of Veterans Affairs

CNO Department: Member Services, Veterans Affairs

Maximum Federal Award: \$10,000,000

CNO Match: n/a

Maximum Federal Award for Total Project: \$10,000,000.00

Request by Project Director/SEO: Harlan Wright, Program Coordinator; Kevin Hamil, Senior Director of Member Services; Lari Ann Northcutt, Executive Director of Member Services; Stacy Shepherd, Executive Officer of Member Services; Teresa Jackson, Senior Executive Officer of Member Services