

**NOMINATION OF ASSISTANT CHIEF JACK AUSTIN, JR., TO SERVE ON THE U.S. DEPARTMENT
OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRIBAL AND INDIAN AFFAIRS**

**IN THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CHOCTAW NATION
JAMES DRY INTRODUCED THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION

TO APPROVE a Resolution supporting the nomination of Assistant Chief Jack Austin, Jr., for re-appointment on the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs as a representative of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs seeks nominations and reappointments to their Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs;

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 Assistant Chief Jack Austin, Jr., for reappointment to the VA Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs to represent the Nation, our Choctaw Veterans and other Native Americans who have served our country in military service;

WHEREAS, Assistant Chief Austin's dedication to service, education, experience and expertise make him a great fit for this role, as well as his ongoing commitment to serving the Nation and our veterans;

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Nation supports efforts to build and grow our relationship with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and Native veterans across the United States and Indian Country;

WHEREAS, Assistant Chief Austin is highly qualified and equipped to serve on this committee due to his commitment to serving our tribal members and his leadership as Chair of the VA Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs. Assistant Chief Austin has the heart, business and governance acumen, and management and service expertise to provide strong guidance and advice as the VA serves Native veterans;

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has determined it is in the best interest of the Nation to support the nomination of Assistant Chief Jack Austin, Jr., for re-appointment to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs as a representative of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma;

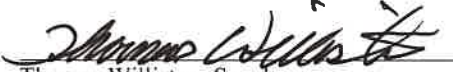
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma that this Resolution be cited as approval for supporting the nomination of Assistant Chief Jack Austin, Jr., for re-appointment to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs as a representative of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

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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 a meeting of the Tribal Council in Tvshka Homma, OK on June 14, 2025. I further certify that the foregoing Council Bill CR- 08 -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


Thomas Williston, Speaker
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council


Gary Patton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Date 6-18-25

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Purpose/Need of Council Resolution: The purpose of this Resolution is to support the nomination of Assistant Chief Jack Austin, Jr., for re-appointment to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs as a representative of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. This committee continues to secure representation for the Nation on a national advisory committee. It fulfills strategic goals in the subheading of the legislative agenda of getting Choctaws appointed to political positions, under the heading of Protect and Promote Choctaw Sovereignty and Culture.

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Agency: Chief's Office, Government Affairs

Budget: N/A

Match Required: N/A

Request by: Sara Jane Smallwood Cocke, Government Affairs