

**TO NAME THE CHOCTAW NATION WELLNESS CENTER IN TALIHINA,
OKLAHOMA THE *WAYNE "WINDY" WARD WELLNESS CENTER***

IN THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CHOCTAW NATION

JAMES DRY INTRODUCED THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL BILL

A COUNCIL BILL

TO NAME the Choctaw Nation Wellness Center in Talihina, Oklahoma, the *Wayne "Windy" Ward Wellness Center*.

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article IX, Section 6 of the Constitution of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, "The Tribal Council shall make decisions pertaining to the acquisition, leasing, disposition, and management of tribal property";

WHEREAS, Wayne "Windy" Ward will forever be remembered as one of Talihina's brightest stars. As the gifted quarterback of the Golden Tigers, he led his team to victory in the 1966 Class B State Championship, a moment that brought pride and unity to the entire community;

WHEREAS, playing alongside his brother, Sherman Ward, the Tigers' glue-fingered tailback end, the two became known far and wide as the legendary "Ward boys," and with their unstoppable connection, most plays were simply called "Ward to Ward";

WHEREAS, Windy's talent and determination earned him a place on two All-State lists, the 10-B All-District team, and the honor of representing Oklahoma in the Texas-Oklahoma Oil Bowl. His impact was so enduring that the Talihina American named him to the town's list of "All Time Football Greats." Beyond football, he also shined on the softball field, traveling across the country as a skilled pitcher;

WHEREAS, Mr. Ward was more than an athlete, he was a leader, a scholar, and a friend. Serving as senior class president and an honor roll student, he embodied the values of hard work, integrity, and service. His accomplishments earned him a full-ride football scholarship to the University of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council (the "Council") of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma (the "Nation") has determined that it is in the best interests of the Nation to name the new Choctaw Nation Wellness Center in Talihina, Oklahoma, the *Wayne "Windy" Ward Wellness Center* to posthumously honor his legacy of excellence, leadership, and the community he represents, and in recognition of the petition submitted by community members requesting this dedication.

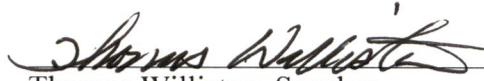
THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma that this Bill be cited as approval for naming the new Choctaw Nation Wellness Center in Talihina,

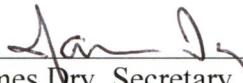
Oklahoma, the *Wayne "Windy" Ward Wellness Center* and the building shall have its new name affixed at the entrances.

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma 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.

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 Tuskahoma, Oklahoma on February 14, 2026. I further certify that the foregoing Council Bill CB- 29 - 26 was adopted at such meeting by the affirmative vote of eleven (11) members, zero (0) negative votes, and zero (0) abstaining.


Thomas Williston, Speaker
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council


James Dry, Secretary
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council


Gary Batton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Date 02-17-26