

APACHE BUSINESS COMMITTEE
Durrell Cooper – Chairman
Matthew Tselee – Vice Chairman
Dustin Cozad – Secretary/Treasurer
Telephone: 405-247-9493



APACHE BUSINESS COMMITTEE
Amber Archilta – Committee Member
Donald Komardley – Committee Member
Ernest Redbird Jr. – Tribal Administrator
Fax: 405-480-2921

**RESOLUTION OF THE APACHE BUSINESS COMMITTEE
to Make a Statement of Support for the Truth and Healing Commission on
Indian Boarding School Policies Act and Bolstering Initiatives**

Resolution No. ABC-2024-024

WHEREAS, the Apache Tribe of Oklahoma is a sovereign, self-governing Indian Tribe with a Constitution approved by the Secretary of Interior to safeguard the tribal rights powers privileges of its members on December 1, 1971, and ratified on February 5, 1972, and

WHEREAS, **Article V – Business Committee,** “This committee shall have such powers as may be delegated to it by appropriate resolutions of the tribal council, and, within such delegated authority, may transact business and otherwise speak or act on behalf of the tribe in all matters on which the tribe is empowered to act now or in the future.” And

WHEREAS, the United States Indian Boarding School policy’s deliberate intent was to separate Native American children from their families, cultures, communities, and Tribal Nations through removal and reeducation; and,

WHEREAS, many Apache children were sent to Ft. Sill Indian School and other Indian boarding schools in the surrounding area, that served as a place to experiment on and abuse our children medically, physically, psychologically, and sexually; and,

WHEREAS, the 2018 *Broken Promises Report* published by the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights reported that American Indian and Alaska Native Peoples continue to experience intergenerational trauma resulting from experiences in Indian boarding schools, which divided families, undermined cultural and societal structures, damaged Indigenous identities, and inflicted chronic psychological damage to American Indian and Alaska Native children and families; and,

WHEREAS, Indian Boarding School policies have had lasting negative impacts on the Apache Tribe of Oklahoma and have drastically reduced our community's language fluency, and limited many of our families' social cohesion and advancement; and,

WHEREAS, Congress introduced legislation titled: To establish the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States, and for other purposes, the Act may be cited as the "Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act" on September 30, 2024, the National Day of Remembrance for U.S. Indian Boarding Schools.; and

WHEREAS, the purposes of this Act are to establish a Truth and Healing Commission (Commission) on Indian Boarding School Policies and Practices in the United States to formally investigate and document, for the first time in history, the attempted termination of cultures and languages of Indigenous Peoples, assimilation practices, and human rights violations that occurred against American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians through Indian Boarding School Policies in furtherance of the motto to "kill the Indian in him and save the man"; and to formally investigate and document the impacts and ongoing effects of historical and intergenerational trauma in Native communities, including the effects of the attempted cultural and linguistic termination of American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians, resulting from Indian Boarding School Policies, among other things; and,

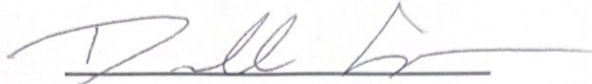
WHEREAS, the Commission's main role is to develop recommendations on actions the federal government can take to adequately hold itself accountable for, and redress and heal, the historical and intergenerational trauma inflicted by the Indian Boarding School Policies and Practices.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Apache Business Committee hereby supports congressional efforts to pass legislation approving the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies and Practices Act and bolstering initiatives, and subsequent recommendations, to hold the federal government accountable for, and redress and heal, the historical and intergenerational trauma inflicted by the Indian Boarding School Policies and Practices.

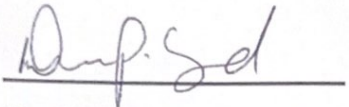
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing Resolution was adopted at a duly called meeting of the Apache Business Committee on the 28th day of August 2024, pursuant to Article V – Business Committee, by a vote of 5 for, 0 against, 0 abstaining, at which a quorum was present.

ATTEST:



Durrell Cooper, Chairman



Dustin Cozad, Secretary-Treasurer

