INTERTRIBAL LAND USE COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 885 610 E. GORE BOULEVARD
LAWTON, OKLAHOMA 73502

PHONE: 580-699-4088



RESOLUTION KCA-2025-06 TO SUPPORT FOR THE TRUTH AND HEALING COMMISSION ON INDIAN BOARDING SCHOOLS POLICIES ACT AND BOLSTERING INITIATIVES

- WHEREAS, the Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma, the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma, and the Apache Tribe of Oklahoma are federally recognized tribes with sovereign inherent rights of self-government; and
- whereas, the Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache Intertribal Land Use Committee (hereinafter "KCAILUC") are duly authorized and delegated representative of the Kiowa Indian Council, the Comanche Business Committee, and the Apache Business Committee, pursuant to their respective constitution; and
- WHEREAS, the KCAILUC has full authority to accept grants of funds, to enter contracts, to make disbursements and to perform other acts and services relating to tribal lands commonly owned by the three tribes, provided no attempt is made to sell or encumber the title to said lands; and
- WHEREAS, the KCAILUC is to protect, preserve, maintain develop, increase, and secure the jointly owned properties set out in above in accordance with the sovereign auspices and constitutions of the respective compromising tribes; and
- **WHEREAS,** the KCAILUC are given the authority to assert the rights of the KCAILUC on behalf of the compromising tribes with regards to the jointly owned lands, natural resources, facilities, or other property; and
- WHEREAS, the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache Chairman from each delegated tribe is here to protect the KCA Intertribal Land Use Committee as a whole;
- whereas, assimilation and "civilization" processes against Native Americans, such as the Indian Boarding School Policies and Practices, were adopted by the United States to strip American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian children of their Indigenous identities, beliefs, and languages; to assimilate them into non-Native culture through federally funded and controlled Christian-run schools, which had the intent and, in many cases, the effect, of termination, with dire and intentional consequences on the cultures and languages of Indigenous Peoples; and,

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WHEREAS,

more than 100,000 American Indian and Alaska Native children were forcibly removed from their family homes and placed in any of 460 Bureau of Indian Affairs-operated schools, including at least 367 known Indian boarding schools, often church-run, at which assimilation and "civilization" practices were inflicted on those children as part of the federal government's goal of advancing eradication of Indigenous Peoples in the United States; 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,

Ft. Sill Indian School was located here on the KCA Reservation, and many KCA children were sent here, and this boarding school and other schools were a place(s) 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 Kiowa, Comanche and Apache Tribes, 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: <u>To establish the Truth and Healing</u>

<u>Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States, and for other purposes</u>, the Act may be cited as the "Truth and Healing Commission on

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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 Kiowa, Comanche and Apache Intertribal Land Use 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.

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CERTIFICATION

The foregoing **Resolution KCA**<u>-2025-06</u> was duly adopted in a regular meeting of the Kiowa, Comanche, & Apache Intertribal Land Use Committee at the Comanche Nation Tax Commission on Tuesday, **October 8, 2024,** by a vote of ___ against __ abstain, a quorum being present and at least two representatives from each tribe concurring in the vote.

ATTEST:

Forrest Tandooahnippah, KCALUC Chairman

Chairman of the Comanche Nation

Durell Cooper III, KCAILUC Vice-Chairman

Chairman of the Apache Tribe

Lawrence Spottedbird, KCAILUC Secretary/Treasurer

Chairman of the Kiowa Tribe