



## COALITION OF LARGE TRIBES

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**A Resolution Entitled, "Support for Janie Simms Hipp, J.D., LLM as General Counsel of the United States Department of Agriculture and respectfully requests Secretary of Agriculture nominee Tom Vilsack to make said appointment"**

**WHEREAS**, we, the member Tribes of the Coalition of Large Tribes (COLT), a federally chartered corporation, created to advocate for federally recognized large land base tribes; and

**WHEREAS**, COLT member tribes are unified to promote our sovereign rights to protect, enhance, control, utilize, and develop our respective land bases; and

**WHEREAS**, COLT seeks to educate the United States Congress, Executive Administration, the public and other tribes regarding the unique issues impacting tribes that govern large land bases; and

**WHEREAS**, COLT further advocates for legislative, regulatory, and policy reforms that impact large land base tribes; and

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Government has a unique legal and political relationship with Tribes, which is recognized in the U.S. Constitution, statutes, and Supreme Court decisions; and

**WHEREAS**, Janie Simms Hipp, J.D., LLM as the General Counsel for the United States Department of Agriculture would be historic in that she, hails from America's first farmers – the Chickasaw Nation, which would make Ms. Hipp the most uniquely qualified person to work as General Counsel these incredibly difficult times. She is a fierce, loyal, and brilliant leader; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms Hipp received her education from the Oklahoma State University, for English and Sociology Major, University of Oklahoma, B.A. in Social Work, Oklahoma City University, for her J.D. and University of Arkansas Fayetteville, LL.M. in Agricultural and Food Law; and



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**WHEREAS**, served as the CEO, Native American Agriculture Fund (current), Director, Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative (IFAI), University of Arkansas Fayetteville, Senior Advisor to the Secretary, Tribal Relations; Director Office of Tribal Relations, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, Washington DC. USDA Risk Management Agency, Director of Risk Management Education Division, Washington DC, USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, National Program Leader (NPL) for Risk Management Education, Farm Financial Management, Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program & Trade Adjustment Assistance, Washington DC, University of Arkansas Fayetteville, Assistant Professor within Division of Agriculture & College of Agriculture, College of Engineering & Honors Colleges, National Center for Agricultural Law, Interim Director, Associate Director & Staff Attorney, University of Arkansas Fayetteville, College of Law; Research Professor of Law, Agricultural Law & Policy Consultant (Native Solutions LLC), OFW Law, Washington DC, Of Counsel, Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, Associate Director & Special Counsel to the Executive Director, Office of the Attorney General, State of Oklahoma, Assistant Attorney General, Private Commercial Law Practice, State of Oklahoma, Oklahoma Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services, Assistant Director of Planning & Director of Affirmative Action and International Experience & Judicial Experience (ALJ); and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Hipp's experience through being a Presenter, Author & Policy Analyst in Indigenous Food and Agriculture, Agricultural Law and Food Law and Policy, Health and Nutrition Law and Policy, Sustainable Agriculture Law and Policy; Food Policy, Water Law & Natural Resources Law, New Generation & Beginning Farmers and Ranchers, Gender & Agriculture, New Markets & Market Development, Rural Economic Development; and

**WHEREAS**, COLT strongly urges President Biden and the United States Department of Agriculture and respectfully requests Secretary of Agriculture nominee Tom Vilsack to make said appointment.

**WHEREAS**, the Coalition of Large Tribes Executive Director for Legislative Affairs will deliver the said resolution to the COLT President Biden and United States Department of Agriculture and respectfully requests Secretary of Agriculture nominee Tom Vilsack to make said appointment; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Coalition of Large Tribes (COLT) calls on President Biden and United States Department of Agriculture and respectfully requests Secretary of Agriculture nominee Tom Vilsack to make said appointment; and



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**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution shall be the policy of the Coalition of Large Tribes until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

### CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Coalition of Large Tribes at a duly held board meeting on February 19, 2021, with a quorum present.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark N. Fox".

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Mark N. Fox, Chairman

**ATTEST:**

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Myron Lizer, Secretary