



COALITION OF LARGE TRIBES

Blackfeet Nation • Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe • Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation
Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Indian Reservation of Oregon • Crow Creek Sioux Tribe • Crow Nation
Eastern Shoshone Tribe • Fort Belknap Indian Community • Hopi Tribe • Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nation • Mescalero Apache Tribe
Muscogee (Creek) Nation • Navajo Nation • Northern Arapaho Tribe • Northern Cheyenne Tribe • Rosebud Sioux Tribe
San Carlos Apache Tribe • Shoshone-Bannock Tribes • Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation
Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux Tribe • Spirit Lake Nation • Spokane Tribe Standing Rock Sioux Tribe • Ute Indian Tribe
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe • Walker River Paiute Tribe

Resolution: 04-21-2026 #1

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT FOR “THE EASTERN BAND CHEROKEE HISTORIC LANDS PRESERVATION ACT” (H.R. 226)

WHEREAS, the Coalition of Large Tribes (COLT) was formally established in early April 2011, and is comprised of Tribes with large land base, including the Blackfeet Nation, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Indian Reservation of Oregon, Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, Crow Nation, Eastern Shoshone Tribe, Fort Belknap Indian Community, Hopi Tribe, Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nation, Mescalero Apache Tribe, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Navajo Nation, Northern Arapaho Tribe, Northern Cheyenne Tribe, Rosebud Sioux Tribe, San Carlos Apache Tribe, Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation, Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux Tribe, Spirit Lake Nation, Spokane Tribe, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Ute Indian Tribe, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe and Walker River Paiute Tribe, and is Chaired by J. Garret Renville of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation, South Dakota; and

WHEREAS, COLT was organized to provide a unified advocacy base on all issues affecting tribes that govern large trust land bases and that strive to ensure the most beneficial use of those lands for tribes and individual Indian landowners; and

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

WHEREAS, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, an Associate Member of COLT, seeks federal legislation to complete the transfer of approximately 76.1 acres of ancestral Cherokee land in eastern Tennessee, from the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to the Eastern Band;

WHEREAS, the Eastern Band began this effort in the early 1980s and desired to have the lands put into trust for the Tribe, but after learning that the fee-to-trust process would take longer than expected and would have delayed TVA construction projects for a year or more, the Eastern Band agreed to accept from TVA permanent easements over the lands with the intent to subsequently change the easements to trust lands;



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WHEREAS, since the easements were created with TVA, the Eastern Band has exercised control over these lands and financially invested in them;

WHEREAS, today on these lands, the Eastern Band oversees, runs and funds the Sequoyah Birthplace Memorial, the Chota Memorial, and the Tanasi Memorial, sites that commemorate and interpret historic persons, towns, and the culture of the Cherokee people during the period from the early 1700s through 1840;

WHEREAS, in July 2026, the Eastern Band will have operated the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum on these lands for forty years;

WHEREAS, the legislation sought by the Eastern Band will allow the Tribe and the TVA to continue to identify additional TVA lands with significant historical and cultural importance and have those lands taken into trust;

WHEREAS, after years of negotiation with the TVA and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and with support from friends in Tennessee, Congressman Chuck Fleischmann, a Republican from Tennessee, has introduced H.R. 226, legislation that would complete the original intent of the Eastern Band and the TVA and allow TVA land to come back to the Eastern Band as protected trust land.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the Coalition of Large Tribes (COLT) supports H.R. 226 and calls for it to be enacted into law during this Congress; and

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



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CERTIFICATION

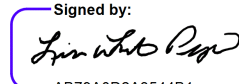
This resolution was approved for action at a duly-called meeting of the Coalition of Large Tribes held at Inn of the Mountain Gods on the Mescalero Apache Reservation on April 21, 2026, at which a quorum was present, with the resolution approved unanimously.

Attest:

Signed by:

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J. Garret Renville, Chairman, Coalition of Large Tribes

Signed by:

AB79A0D2A3544B1...

Lisa White Pipe, Secretary / Treasurer, Coalition of Large Tribes