

CHEROKEE COUNCIL HOUSE
CHEROKEE, NORTH CAROLINA

DATE: _____

RESOLUTION NO. _____ (2026)

9 *A resolution to authorize the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians to withdraw from the*
10 *National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) and terminate its membership therein.*

12 WHEREAS, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians has been an active member of the
13 National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) for decades; and

14
15 WHEREAS, NCAI is an organization of Federally-recognized tribes, Alaska Native
16 governments, and non-Federally-recognized (“State-recognized”) groups
17 that, according to the NCAI website, works to develop consensus on
18 national policy issues that impact tribal interests; and

19
20 WHEREAS, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians supports the mission of NCAI, but
21 the Tribe is discouraged by the shifting priorities of NCAI; and

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23 WHEREAS, NCAI has moved away from serving the interests of Federally-recognized
24 tribes which it was founded to serve and that have a trust relationship with
25 government-to-government status with the United States of America; and

26
27 WHEREAS, the interests non-Federally-recognized groups often diverge significantly
28 from the interests of Federally-recognized tribes, and the divergence harms
29 Federally-recognized tribes and diminishes their sovereignty; and

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31 WHEREAS the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians has determined that continued
32 membership in NCAI is not helpful to the Tribe, and the Tribe is authorized
33 to withdraw from, and terminate its membership in NCAI.

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35 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Tribal Council of the Eastern Band of
36 Cherokee Indians, in Council assembled at which a quorum is present, the
37 Tribal Council hereby authorizes the Tribe to withdraw from the National
38 Congress of American Indians and to terminate its membership in that
39 organization.

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41 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED this resolution shall be effective upon ratification by the
42 Principal Chief, and all prior resolutions that are inconsistent with this
43 resolution are rescinded.

45 Submitted by Michell Hicks, Principal Chief.