



**UNITED** *for* **OKLAHOMA**

Friday, April 10, 2020

Office of the Governor  
The Honorable J. Kevin Stitt  
Governor, State of Oklahoma  
Oklahoma State Capitol  
2300 N Lincoln Blvd.  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

Dear Governor Stitt:

The reality of the coronavirus pandemic calls on all of us to act decisively and in service to the public interest. As you, we have taken decisive steps to protect Oklahomans from the virus. We have each, for example, closed our public operations, including our Tribal government gaming operations and hospitality venues. We have done this to limit public gatherings that would otherwise help the virus to spread, and we have done this confident our actions are saving lives.

Our temporary closures, of course, shut off the Tribal government revenues with which we provide programs and services to our citizens and pay our thousands of employees. We did this to help contain the virus and save lives, which is more important than temporary economic disruption. We have also gone further, utilizing precious resources to continue our programs, services, and payrolls for as long as possible so we can help our citizens and employees weather these difficult times. In taking these actions, we have been guided by our belief that the surest path to containing the virus's comprehensive challenge is to take it seriously and act on the measures broadly recommended by public health experts.

The Trump Administration has emphasized that the time to act is upon us. The coming weeks will be particularly challenging as the virus moves toward its peak across the country. We also know too many Oklahomans suffer from underlying health concerns that leave them uniquely susceptible to the worst of the virus and that too many, particularly in our rural areas, have limited access to good health care. When we can protect others, we believe we must do so.

In affirming your declaration of a statewide public health emergency, the Oklahoma Legislature recently entrusted you with significant temporary powers to protect Oklahomans from the risks posed by COVID-19. In this pivotal moment and with the needs of all Oklahomans in mind, we urge you to use these powers and go further than the present order, and to issue a full and statewide shelter-in-place order. As the experience in other states and countries shows and as broadly recommended by public health experts, this is the surest path to containing the virus's public health risk and to limit its longer-term social disruptions.

Sincerely,

Chuck Hoskin Jr.

Chuck Hoskin, Principal Chief, Cherokee Nation

Bill Anoatubby

Bill William Anoatubby, Governor, The Chickasaw Nation

Jay Batton

Gary Batton, Chief, The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Greg P. Chilcoat

Gregory Paul Chilcoat, Chief, The Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

David W. Hill

David W. Hill, Chief, Muscogee (Creek) Nation

John R. Johnson

John R. Johnson, Governor, Absentee-Shawnee  
Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma

Kristopher Killfirst

Kristopher Killfirst, Chairman, Apache Tribe of Oklahoma

Reggie Wassana

Reggie Wassana, Governor, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribe

William Nelson Sr.

William Nelson Sr., Chairman, Comanche Nation

Deborah Dotson

Deborah Dotson, President, Delaware Nation, Oklahoma

Glenna Wallace

Glenna Wallace, Chief, Eastern Shawnee

Lori Gooday Ware

Lori Gooday Ware, Chairwoman, Fort Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma

Lynn Williams

Lynn Williams, Chairwoman, Kaw Nation

David Pacheco Sr

David Pacheco, Chairman, Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma

Matthew Komalty

Matthew Komalty, Chairman, Kiowa Tribe

Douglas Lankford

Douglas G. Lankford, Chief, Miami Tribe of Oklahoma

Geoffrey M. Standing Bear

Geoffrey M. Standing Bear, Principal Chief, The Osage Nation

Ethel E. Cook

Ethel E. Cook, Chief, Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma

CRAIG HARPER

Craig Harper, Chief, Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma

John Berrey

John Berrey, Chairman, Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma

Justin Wood

Justin F. Wood, Principal Chief, Sac and Fox Nation

William L. Fisher

William L. Fisher, Chief, Seneca-Cayuga Nation

Ben Barnes

Ben Barnes, Chief, Shawnee Tribe

Russell Martin

Russell Martin, President, Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terri Parton". The script is fluid and cursive.

Terri Parton, President, Wichita and Affiliate Tribes  
(Wichita, Keechi, Waco & Tawakonie), Oklahoma

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Billy Friend". The script is cursive and somewhat stylized.

Billy Friend, Chief, Wyandotte Nation