

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NOMINATION OF HARLAN WRIGHT TO SERVE ON THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MINORITY VETERANS**

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**IN THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CHOCTAW NATION**

**RONALD PERRY INTRODUCED THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

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**A COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**TO APPROVE** a resolution supporting the nomination of Harlan Wright, Choctaw Nation Tribal Member and Senior Program Manager in the Choctaw Nation Veterans Advocacy Department, to serve as a member of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans.

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Article VII, Section 2 of the Constitution of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma (the "Nation"), the Chief has the power to "establish and appoint committees, members and delegates to represent the Choctaw Nation with the advice and consent of the Tribal Council";

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs solicits nominations for members of the Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans;

**WHEREAS**, Chief Gary Batton nominates Harlan Wright, Choctaw Nation Tribal Member and Senior Program Manager in the Choctaw Nation Veterans Advocacy Department, to serve as a member of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans to represent the Nation and Indian Country through strategic planning related to the interests and needs of minority Veterans;

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Wright's experience and expertise, as well as his commitment to serving his Nation and its people, make him well qualified for this role;

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma supports efforts to build and grow the Nation's relationship with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as well as other tribal, state, and local governments involved in ensuring equal service to minority Veterans;

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Wright is highly qualified and equipped to serve on this committee due to his commitment to serving our Tribal Members and Veterans across the Reservation. He served in the United States Marine Corps for many years and has earned accreditation as a Veterans Service Officer. Mr. Wright is well versed in navigating the often-challenging Veterans Affairs claims process and he has demonstrated steadfast dedication to his country and the Nation by ensuring all Choctaw Veterans receive support and guidance as they transition back into civilian life; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma has determined it is in the best interest of the Nation to support the nomination of Harlan Wright to serve as a member of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans.

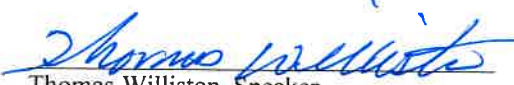
**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma that this Resolution be cited as approval for supporting the nomination of Harlan Wright to serve as a member of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans.


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**CERTIFICATION**

*I, the undersigned, as speaker of the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of twelve (12) seats. Eight (8) members must be present to constitute a quorum. I further certify that twelve (12) members answered roll call and that a quorum was present at the Regular Session of the Tribal Council at Tuskahoma, Oklahoma on May 11, 2024. I further certify that the foregoing Council Resolution CR- 16 -24 was adopted at such meeting by the affirmative vote of twelve (12) members, zero (0) negative votes, and zero (0) abstaining.*

  
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Ronald Perry, Secretary  
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council

  
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Thomas Williston, Speaker  
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Batton, Chief  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Date 5-16-24

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON  
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**Purpose/Need of Council Resolution:** The purpose of this Resolution is to support the nomination of Harlan Wright, Choctaw Nation Tribal Member and Senior Program Manager in the Choctaw Nation Veterans Advocacy Department, to serve on the United States Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans. Mr. Wright is highly qualified and equipped to serve on this committee due to his commitment to serving Tribal Members and Veterans across the Choctaw Nation. Mr. Wright served in the United States Marine Corps for many years and earned accreditation as a Veterans Service Officer. Mr. Wright is well versed in navigating the often-challenging Veterans Affairs claims process and has demonstrated steadfast dedication to his country and the Nation by ensuring all Choctaw Veterans receive support and guidance as they transition back into civilian life. His position on the Working Group will ensure that the Nation will have a voice within an important federal organization and will also fulfill the Nation's strategic goal of protecting and promoting tribal sovereignty by placing Choctaw Tribal Members and Choctaw Nation leaders in political positions. This Council Bill is recommended for review by the following Standing Committees of the Choctaw Nation Tribal Council: **Member Services Committee.**

**Title of Council Resolution: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NOMINATION OF HARLAN WRIGHT TO SERVE ON THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MINORITY VETERANS**

**Agency:** Government Relations

**Budget:** N/A

**Match Required:** N/A

**Request by:** John Hobbs, SEO Communications

Harlan Wright is a dedicated Senior Program Manager within the Choctaw Nation Veterans Advocacy department, where he passionately advocates for veterans' rights and benefits. Born and raised in Hugo, Oklahoma, Harlan's journey towards service and advocacy began early.

After graduating from Hugo High School in 2001, Harlan felt a strong calling to serve his country. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, embarking on an eight-year journey of duty and honor. His service spanned from February 12, 2001, to February 11, 2005, and again from February 23, 2007, to February 22, 2011, during which he demonstrated unwavering commitment and resilience.

Transitioning to civilian life, Harlan's dedication to service remained steadfast. He joined the Choctaw Nation in 2011 as a security guard and moved into Veterans Advocacy in 2014, driven by a desire to continue supporting his fellow veterans. Over the years, he proved himself to be a compassionate and effective advocate, earning accreditation as a Veterans Service Officer (VSO) in 2018.

Harlan's journey within the advocacy field has been marked by continuous growth and achievement. Starting as a VSO, he demonstrated exceptional dedication and leadership, eventually ascending to the role of Senior Program Manager in June 2022. In this capacity, he oversees critical programs and initiatives aimed at ensuring veterans receive the support and benefits they rightfully deserve.

Education has always been a priority for Harlan. In May 2021, he proudly graduated from Southeastern Oklahoma State University with a bachelor's degree in business administration, further enhancing his skill set and expertise.

Outside of his professional pursuits, Harlan finds joy and fulfillment in spending quality time with his family. Whether it's exploring the great outdoors or simply enjoying moments of relaxation at home, family remains at the center of his life.

Harlan Wright's unwavering dedication to service, coupled with his commitment to empowering and advocating for veterans, makes him a valued leader within the Choctaw Nation Veterans Advocacy department and a beacon of inspiration within the community.