

**TO AUTHORIZE APPLICATION TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE FOR THE JOINT VENTURE PROGRAM TO CONSTRUCT AND EQUIP A
REPLACEMENT CHOCTAW NATION HUGO CLINIC, AUTHORIZE NEGOTIATION AND
EXECUTION OF A JOINT VENTURE AGREEMENT, AND AUTHORIZE SUCH APPROPRIATIONS AS
NECESSARY TO CONSTRUCT AND EQUIP THE REPLACEMENT CLINIC**

IN THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CHOCTAW NATION

RONALD PERRY INTRODUCED THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL BILL

A COUNCIL BILL

TO APPROVE application to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service (IHS) for the Joint Venture Program; authorize negotiation and execution of a Joint Venture Agreement; and authorize such appropriations as necessary to construct and equip the replacement for the Choctaw Nation Hugo Clinic. **WHEREAS**, Article IX, Section 4 of the Constitution of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma (the “Nation”) provides that the Tribal Council (the “Council”) shall enact legislation, rules and regulations not inconsistent with the Constitution for the general good of the Choctaw Nation and for the administration and regulation of the affairs of the Choctaw Nation;

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article IX, Section 6 of the Constitution of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma: “The Choctaw Tribal Council shall make decisions pertaining to the acquisition, leasing, disposition and management of tribal property”;

WHEREAS, the Choctaw Nation (the “Nation”) recognizes the need to improve the accessibility of health care services to Choctaw Nation citizens, other eligible Indians and employees in the Hugo, Choctaw County, Oklahoma, area within the Nation;

WHEREAS, the existing Hugo Clinic was constructed in 1975, and has challenges with aging clinical space. The limited scope of care available in the existing Hugo Clinic causes Choctaw citizens and other patients to travel long distances for certain services; moreover, with an active patient population (user population) of approximately 6,100 patients, the existing Hugo facility is tremendously undersized for the number of patients seeking healthcare and living in a 30-minute driving radius;

WHEREAS, IHS has announced the application process for its Joint Venture Program with a pre-application due November 30th, 2024, whereby the Nation may commit to construct and equip the healthcare facility, and the IHS commits to provide recurring operating funds for the facility; and

WHEREAS, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma desires to apply for the Joint Venture Program, and upon selection and pursuant to a negotiated Joint Venture Agreement, hereby authorizes resources sufficient to construct and equip a replacement healthcare facility in Hugo, Oklahoma, subject to a future appropriations enactment.

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma has determined it is in the best interest of the Nation to authorize application to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service (IHS) for the Joint Venture Program; authorize negotiation and execution of a Joint Venture Agreement; and authorize such appropriations as necessary to construct and equip the replacement for the Choctaw Nation Hugo Clinic.

THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma that this Bill be cited as authorization for the Chief or his designee to apply for the IHS Joint Venture Program for a replacement Choctaw Nation Health Clinic in Hugo, Oklahoma.

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BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma that this Bill be cited as authorization for the Chief or his designee to negotiate and execute an associated Joint Venture Agreement with IHS.

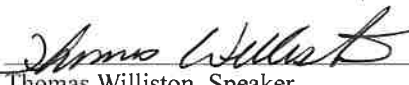
BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma that this Bill be cited as approval that sufficient funding be hereby authorized to construct and equip a replacement Choctaw Nation Health Clinic in Hugo, Oklahoma in accordance with the Joint Venture Agreement and subject to a future appropriations enactment.

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 November 9, 2024. I further certify that the foregoing Council Bill CB- 08 -25 was adopted at such meeting by the affirmative vote of twelve (12) members, zero (0) negative votes, and zero (0) abstaining.



Ronald Perry, Secretary
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council



Thomas Williston, Speaker
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council



Gary Batton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Date 11-12-24

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Purpose/Need of Council Bill: The Nation's existing Hugo Clinic was constructed in 1975 and has challenges with aging clinical space and the limited scope of care available in the existing Hugo facility causes Choctaw citizens and other patients to travel long distances for certain services. Also, the Hugo Clinic has an active patient population (user population) of approximately 6,100 patients. The existing Hugo facility is tremendously undersized for the number of patients seeking healthcare and living in a 30-minute driving radius. The Indian Health Service has announced the application process for its Joint Venture Program with a pre-application due November 30th, 2024, whereby the Nation may commit to construct and equip a new healthcare facility, and IHS commits to provide recurring operating funds for the facility. The Nation wishes to apply for the Joint Venture program, and if selected, this bill would authorize the Chief or his designee to negotiate and execute a Joint Venture Agreement with IHS and authorize sufficient funding to construct and equip a replacement Choctaw Nation Health Clinic in Hugo, Oklahoma. If the Nation is selected for the Joint Venture program, a separate bill with a specific budget will be presented to the Tribal Council to appropriate the funds for the construction. This bill meets the Nation's strategic goal of supporting service delivery to improve quality of life.

Title of Council Bill: TO AUTHORIZE APPLICATION TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE FOR THE JOINT VENTURE PROGRAM TO CONSTRUCT AND EQUIP A REPLACEMENT CHOCTAW NATION HUGO CLINIC, AUTHORIZE NEGOTIATION AND EXECUTION OF A JOINT VENTURE AGREEMENT, AND AUTHORIZE SUCH APPROPRIATIONS AS NECESSARY TO CONSTRUCT AND EQUIP THE REPLACEMENT CLINIC

Federal Agency: United States Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service

CNO Dept: Choctaw Nation Health Service Authority

Total Budget: TBD

Request by Project Director/SEO: Todd Hallmark, Executive Officer Health Services/Executive Director of Health Services; Teresa Jackson, SEO Member Services

Suggested Legislative Committee Review: Member Services