

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-14

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS, SUPPORTING AND URGING THE PASSAGE OF CONGRESSIONAL BILL HOUSE RESOLUTION (HR) 759, THE YSLETA DE SUR PUEBLO AND ALABAMA-COUSHATTA TRIBES OF TEXAS EQUAL AND FAIR OPPORTUNITY SETTLEMENT ACT.

- WHEREAS** the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas is a federally recognized Indian Tribe located in Polk County, Texas and is committed to supporting the economic development and creation of jobs within Polk and surrounding counties of Deep East Texas; and
- WHEREAS** the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas' Naskila electronic bingo facility, supports more than 650 jobs in Deep East Texas and is the second largest employer in Polk County, and is responsible for injecting nearly \$150 million annually in revenue to the region; and
- WHEREAS** the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas provided over 50 fully paid collegiate scholarships for graduating high school students of the Tribe in 2019; and
- WHEREAS** the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas being a good community partner, contributed \$500,000 in donations after Hurricane Harvey to several counties, and purchased 30 manufactured home units;
- WHEREAS** United States Congressman Brian Babin (R-Woodville) has filed H.R. 759 to clarify conflicting federal statutes regarding the right of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas to offer Class II electronic bingo on their tribal lands pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, a right enjoyed and exercised by the Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas since 1996; and
- WHEREAS** the passage of H.R. 759 is vital to continued economic development and health of both the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas and all Deep East Texas;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Huntsville, Texas, joins the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas in support of its effort for passage of H.R. 759 to clarify that the Tribe can enjoy the opportunity for tribal economic development on terms that are equal and fair, and to protect jobs. FURTHER, the City of Huntsville urgently requests that United States Senators John Cornyn and Ted Cruz of Texas, as well as the other 35 Texans elected to the United States House of Representatives, join Congressman Babin in securing the enactment of H.R. 759 into law.


Passed and approved this 18th day of February 2020.

THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE




Joe Rodriguez, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:



Brenda Poe, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Leonard Schneider, City Attorney