

Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians

RESOLUTION NO: 5-8-25A

PERTAINING TO: RESOLUTION DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE RED CLIFF EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

WHEREAS: The Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians is a federally recognized Indian Tribe, organized under a constitution adopted April 18, 1936, and approved June 1, 1936 pursuant to Sec. 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act, said Constitution having been duly amended by the Band in accordance with the provisions of applicable federal law;

WHEREAS: The Red Cliff Tribal Council is the governing body of the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, a Federally recognized Tribe with approximately 8,000 enrolled citizens; and

WHEREAS: The mission of the Red Cliff Early Childhood Center (ECC) is that *Traditional Ojibwe values will guide our efforts to promote the spiritual, emotional, physical, and cognitive wellness of the children, families, and community served*; and

WHEREAS: The ECC serves children and families that have the highest risk and need, as well as being the most vulnerable ages 0-5 in the northernmost impoverished tip of Bayfield County in the State of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS: The ECC has experienced EXTREMELY challenging 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years due to teacher shortages, under-enrollment, financial management, compliance and regulation, and substantial school closures, all of which are negatively impacting children's school readiness and the community's broader service system; and

WHEREAS: Proposed threats to eliminate or reduce federal funding to the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families' Head Start and Early Head Start programs would have further adverse effects on the children and families of the Tribe and surrounding communities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The Red Cliff Tribal Council, on behalf of its tribal citizens and non-tribal citizens residing in the immediate service area of the ECC, hereby declares a STATE OF EMERGENCY; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that all Red Cliff Tribal agencies, departments, and entities shall prioritize this State of Emergency and collaboratively dedicate their resources to develop solutions for these significant and complex problems; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Tribal Council hereby directs the Education Division Administration to consider ECC organizational restructure and to establish an ECC Action Team to effectively address meeting the mission of the ECC. The Action Team shall consist of, but not be limited to, tribal staff and community partners, and is charged with developing and presenting a comprehensive strategy to respond to this emergency. The Action Team shall work with Federal, State and local entities to achieve this purpose and is authorized to call upon any tribal

department or program to provide necessary information, personnel, or other assistance as required by this Resolution. The Team shall convene as soon as practically possible to begin performing its duties.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED: this Resolution shall be served upon Federal, State, Tribal and community action agencies, and elected officials with formal requests for assistance in combating this state of emergency; and

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned Secretary of the Red Cliff Tribal Council, do hereby certify that the council is composed of nine members (9), of whom 9 were present at a meeting duly called, convened and held this 8th day of May, 2025, and that the foregoing resolution was adopted at said meeting by an affirmative vote of 8 members for, 0 against, and 0 members abstaining for the vote, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in anyway.



Butch Bresette, Secretary
Red Cliff Tribal Council

