

TENTH LEGISLATURE
OF THE
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES
REGULAR SESSION
OCTOBER 11, 2025
LCR, CONCHO, OK

RESOLUTION:	A Bill to Create the “Cheyenne and Arapaho Education Endowment Fund”.
RESOLUTION NO:	10L-RS-2025-10-006
DATE INTRODUCED:	September 8, 2025
SPONSOR:	George Woods, District C2
CO-SPONSOR:	Thomas Trout, District C3

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

[NOTE: Except as otherwise noted, the provisions of this Resolution were enacted into Law by the Tenth Legislature of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, in the 22nd Regular Session by a roll call vote on October 11, 2025 by Res. No. 10L-RS-2025-10-006].

SUBJECT: A Bill to Create the “Cheyenne and Arapaho Education Endowment Fund”.

WHEREAS: The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes are duly recognized by the United States Secretary of the Interior as a self-governing, Sovereign Nation, that is a federally recognized Indian Tribe with all rights, privileges, and powers attended thereto as a sovereign government, and organized in accordance with Title 25 of the United States Code, Section 450, the “Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act,” and Article XVII of the Tribe’s Constitution and By-Laws and Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), under an amended Constitution ratified on August, 2006 and approved by the Secretary of Interior on May 17, 2006 and further amended on October 5, 2021 by a majority vote of the voters; and

WHEREAS: Article VI, Section 5(a) of the Constitution provides that Legislative power shall reside with the Legislature; and

WHEREAS: Article VI, Section 5(a) of the Constitution grants the Legislature the “power to make all laws and resolutions in accordance with the Constitution which are necessary and proper for the good of the Tribes;” and

WHEREAS: Article VI, Section 5(a) of the Constitution requires “Laws and resolutions which have been enacted shall remain valid until amended or repealed;” and

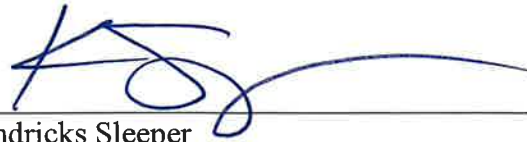
WHEREAS: Article VI, Section 7(a)(i) of the Constitution requires that [a]ll legislative proposals shall be formally introduced as written Bills; and

WHEREAS: The Tenth Legislature recognizes a need to create our own Education Endowment Fund in order to have its own charitable, nonprofit public benefit of the Cheyenne

and Arapaho Tribe created, organized, and maintained exclusively for educational purposes on behalf of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tenth Legislature of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes states that the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Education Endowment Fund Act shall be cited as 11 CAC §11.001 in order to conform to the Codification Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tenth Legislature of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, pursuant to its Constitutional authority, adopts the Bill to create the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Education Endowment Fund Act, as attached herewith.



Kendricks Sleeper
Speaker of the Tenth Legislature
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes



ATTEST:

I, Jodi White Buffalo, Legislative Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing is a True and Accurate Copy of the Original Bill No. 10L-RS-2025-10-006 which was acted upon by the Legislature of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes in the Tenth Legislature Regular Session, by a roll call vote on the 11th day of October 2025, by a vote.

VOTE RECORD:

DISTRICT	LEGISLATOR	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
A1	Diane Willis	✓			
A2	Kendricks Sleeper	✓			
A3	Travis Ruiz	✓			
A4	Rector Candy	✓			
C1	Bruce Whiteman, Jr.	✓			
C2	George Woods	✓			
C3	Thomas Trout	✓			
C4	Byron Byrd	✓			
TOTAL		8			
Passes (X) Fails () Tabled () Allowed to Die () No Action ()					


Jodi White Buffalo, Legislative Clerk
Tenth Legislature, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes



ATTEST:

Pursuant to Article VI, Section 7, subsection (a)(iv) of the Tribes Constitution reads in part: "All Bills passed by the Legislature shall be presented to the Governor for signature or veto. All laws shall take effect thirty days after signature by the Governor or veto override by the Legislature unless any Member of the Tribes submits to the Coordinator of the Office of Tribal Council a petition signed by at least one hundred fifty Members of the Tribal Council seeking to repeal the law or resolution at the next Tribal Council meeting. If the Tribal Council fails to repeal such law or resolution at the next Tribal Council where the matter has been properly placed on the agenda for the Tribal Council meeting, such law or resolution shall become effective immediately."

Pursuant to Article VII, Section 4, subsection (g) of the Tribes Constitution reads: "The Governor shall have the power to sign any enactment passed by the Legislature into law or to veto any enactment passed by the Legislature within ten days of passage with a written explanation of any objections; and if the Governor takes no action within ten days, then the enactment shall become law in accordance with this Constitution."

{ ☒ } APPROVED

{ ☐ } VETOED: Attachment ____; Governor's written explanation of any objections.

On the 11th day of October, 2025.



Reggie Wassana, Governor
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes

TRANSMITTAL OF DOCUMENTS:

From the Legislative Branch to the Office of Records Management

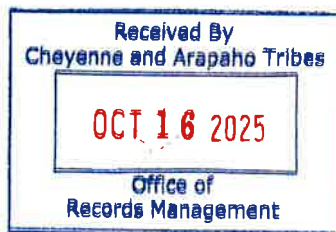
ATTEST:

Pursuant to Article VI, Section 7, subsection (a)(v), of the Tribes Constitution reads, "The Office of Records Management shall compile all Laws and Resolutions into a comprehensive Code in an orderly manner that shall be published annually."

Office of Records Management Staff, hereby certify that the foregoing is a True and Accurate Original Resolution No. 10L-RS-2025-10-006.

Space below is reserved for Stamp:

Received (Date) Office of Record Management



Signature: _____

Cheryl Blind

Print Name: _____

Cheryl Blind

Title: _____

Director

Date: _____

10/16/25

Office of Records Management

Department of Administration, Executive Branch

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes

CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBAL CODE (CAC)
TITLE 4 – CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES
EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND ACT
SECTION 11.001 – ENACTED BY LEGISLATURE: October 11, 2025
CITE AS: 11 CAC §11.001

SUBJECT

This legislative act shall be codified as 11 CAC §11.001 – “Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Education Endowment Fund Act of 2025”.

FINDINGS

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes are a federally recognized Indian tribe, organized under a Constitution approved by Tribal membership on April 4, 2006 and approved by the Secretary of the Interior; and

- A. Article VI, Section 5(a) and (c) in the Constitution provides that “Legislative power shall be vested in the Legislature” and “[t]he Legislature shall have the power to make laws and resolutions in accordance with the Constitution which are necessary and proper for the good of the Tribes...Laws and resolutions which have been enacted shall remain valid until amended or repealed[;]” and
- B. The Office of Records Management is created pursuant to Constitution Article VII, and the Office of Records Management “shall compile all laws and Resolutions into a comprehensive Code in an orderly manner that shall be published annually.” Constitution Article VI, Section 7(a)(v). The Legislature has deemed it necessary and proper to create a Codification Act to ensure the Office of Records Management has a clear and concise direction to maintain a comprehensive Code in an orderly manner.

SUBSTANTIAL PROVISIONS

The Legislature of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes hereby adopts the following CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND ACT OF 2025.

Table of Contents

§11.001 Short Title.....	2
§11.002 Authority	2
§11.003 Preamble.....	2
§11.004 Purpose	3
§11.005 Amounts Authorized	3
§11.006 Establishment of a Cheyenne and Arapaho Education Endowment Fund	3
§11. 007 Executive Board.....	4
§11.008 Express Authority of CAEFF	5
§11.009 Express Limitation of CAEEF Authority.....	6
§11.011 Provisions as Cumulative.....	7

§11.012 Construction.....	7
§11.013 Severability.....	7
§11.014 Statement of Supersedure.....	7
§11.015 Effective Date	7

CHAPTER 1: SHORT TITLE

§11.001 Short Title

This Act shall be known and may be cited as the “Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Education Endowment Fund Act of 2025”.

CHAPTER 2: AUTHORITY AND FINDINGS

§11.002 Authority

- (a) The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes are duly recognized by the United States Secretary of the Interior as a self-governing, Sovereign Nation, that is a federally recognize Indian Tribe with all rights, privileges, and powers attended thereto as a sovereign government, and organized in accordance with Title 25 of the United States Code, Section 450, the “Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act,” and Article XVII of the Tribe’s Constitution and By-Laws and Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), under an amended Constitution ratified on April, 2006 and approved by the Secretary of Interior on May 17, 2006; and
- (b) Article VI, Section 5, subsection (a) of the Constitution grants that the Legislative power shall be vested in the Legislature; and
- (c) Article VI, Section 5, subsection (a) of the Constitution further grants that the Legislature shall have the power to make laws and resolutions in accordance with the Constitution which are necessary and proper for the good of the Tribes; and
- (d) Article VI, Section 5, subsection (a) of the Constitution further grants that all actions by the Legislature shall be embodied in a written law or resolution; and
- (e) Article VI, Section 5, subsection (a) of the Constitution further grants that laws and resolutions which have been enacted shall remain valid until amended or repealed.

§11.003 Preamble

The Legislature of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes finds that

- (a) There is hereby established the Cheyenne and Arapaho Education Endowment Fund (hereinafter “the Fund”), a segregated fund of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribe to be formed under the Tribes nonprofit code and maintained from donations, gifts, subscriptions and bequests, the principal of which Fund shall be held in trust in perpetuity and invested by the Officers of the Fund under the direction of the Executive Committee, the income only of the Fund shall be expended in support and maintenance in perpetuity of the educational needs of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.
- (b) All gifts, bequests, subscriptions and donations to the Fund shall on payment to the Fund be added to and become a part of such Fund to be held in trust in perpetuity for the purposes herein stated.
- (c) This Act is made a covenant and agreement on the part of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, with every person who shall make a donation, gift, subscription or bequest, or

promise to make a gift, donation or bequest to the Fund, that the principal of such Fund shall be held in trust in perpetuity; and the income only thereof be used by the Fund for the purposes herein stated; and that the contributions to the Fund which shall be restricted by the donors to particular educational purposes, either as to principal or income, shall be used as the donors direct, and not otherwise.

CHAPTER 3: PURPOSE

§11.004 Purpose

The purpose of this Act is to create a charitable, nonprofit public benefit program of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes created under the tribal nonprofit code, organized, and maintained exclusively for educational purposes, and to further the following purposes:

- (a) To provide a perpetual education endowment fund of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes segregated from the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes' General Funds and managed under the terms of this Act.
- (b) To provide a perpetual source of financial assistance to Cheyenne and Arapaho students of all ages.
- (c) To provide a perpetual source of funds for educational research of importance to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.
- (d) To provide a perpetual source of funds for other educational programs of importance to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.
- (e) To provide a perpetual source funds to provide for charitable and educational activities in support of the educational needs, goals, and programs of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.
- (f) To foster the creation of new and creative strategies to address the Cheyenne and Arapaho people's areas of greatest educational need.
- (g) To provide new and innovative fiscal methods to address the unique difficulties faced by the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes in the area of education and the provision of educational opportunities.

CHAPTER 4: AMOUNTS AUTHORIZED

§11.005 Amounts Authorized

- (a) Cheyenne and Arapaho Education Endowment Fund: For calendar years 2025, 2026 and 2027 a total of \$500,000 is authorized for expenditure under this Act.
- (b) The primary funding source is Tax Commission funds.
- (c) All funding authorized herein is subject to the Legislative appropriations process.

CHAPTER 5: ESTABLISHMENT OF A CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND

§11.006 Establishment of a Cheyenne and Arapaho Education Endowment Fund

- (a) In order to effectuate the purposes and policies of this Act, the Governor or his representative is authorized to file any necessary articles of incorporation.

- (b) Create office space to carry out the intent of this Act.
- (c) Hire a Staff Assistant/Project Officer for this office.
- (d) Create an accounting system for the nonprofit and comply with all applicable laws (tribal/state/federal).
- (e) Create a permanent endowment for CAEEF through the Oklahoma City Community Foundation.

CHAPTER 6: STRUCTURE OF OFFICE OF CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND

CAEEF shall be a nonprofit organized under the Tribes nonprofit code and shall consist of an Executive Board.

§11.007 Executive Board

- (a) An Executive Board shall have all the Powers of the Fund as listed in Section 11.008 below and shall manage the general affairs of the Fund.
- (b) The Executive Board shall have the control of the management of the property of the Fund including the fixing of compensation of its employees and the control of the funds to its care.
- (c) The Executive Board shall act as a fiduciary of the Fund, which duty shall include be limited to the management of the Fund consistent with the purposes of this Act and for the benefit of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.
- (d) The Executive Board shall adopt, implement, and follow Bylaws for the Fund, not inconsistent with this Act, by majority vote. The Bylaws shall proscribe the procedures by which the Executive Board shall carryout its general affairs and duties. The Executive Board may amend the Bylaws by majority vote.
- (e) The Executive Board shall adopt, implement, and follow Investment Policies and Procedures for the Fund, not inconsistent with this Act, by majority vote. The Investment Policies and Procedures shall proscribe, in general, the procedures by which the Executive Board shall manage the assets of the Fund.
- (f) The Executive Board shall consist of no more than five (5) board members, two of whom must be members of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, who shall be nominated by the Governor and confirmed by the Legislature in accordance with Article VI, Section 5(h) of the Constitution, with the exception of the Chairman.
- (g) The Executive Director of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Education Department shall serve as the Chairman of the Fund.
- (h) The CAEEF Board shall adopt bylaws, rules, procedures and other policies consistent with this Act, a copy of which shall be provided to the Governor.
- (i) The CAEEF Board members shall be entitled to any lawful stipend in connection with the Board and may receive compensation for any additional service should any such compensation be provided through the Cheyenne and Arapaho appropriation process or through such other enactment of the Legislature of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.
- (j) The Executive Board shall annually make a written report and presentation to the Governor and Legislature on the condition, management, and goals of the Fund.

Subsequent to the annual report and presentation, the Governor and Legislature shall review the report and may offer suggestions to the Executive Board.

- (k) The accounts of the Fund shall be examined and audited annually by an independent auditor hired by the Executive Board for that purpose, who shall prepare a written report of that examination and audit and, if satisfied that the Funds' accounts are accurate, shall sign a statement attesting to that fact as a part of the report. The annual audit report shall be delivered to the Governor, Legislature and Records Office for their review.

CHAPTER 7: EXPRESS AUTHORITY: POWERS OF CAEEF

§11.008 Express Authority of CAEEF

This Fund is organized, and shall at all times be operated exclusively to benefit the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes and to carry out the educational purposes thereof, including but not limited to educational assistance and the advancement of the educational needs, programs, and purposes of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

- (a) The Fund shall solicit, accept, administer, and disburse gifts, grants, and property of every kind from both private and public sources for the support of the educational goals and needs of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes and consistent with the goals of the Fund. The Fund may take, hold, or decline by bequest, devise, gift, grant, purchase, or otherwise, either absolutely or jointly with another, any property, real, personal, tangible or intangible, or any interest therein, without limitation as to amount or value; sell, convey, or otherwise dispose of such property, and invest, reinvest, or deal with the principal or income in such a manner as, in the judgment of the Executive Board, will best promote the purposes of the Fund, without limitation except such as may be contained in the instrument under which such property is received, this Act, the Bylaws of the Fund, or any applicable law.
- (b) The Fund shall initiate and maintain continuous program for the solicitation of funds, directly or indirectly, from the general public, the Cheyenne and Arapaho community, governmental units, benefactors of charitable and educational programs, and any other source that may be identified.
- (c) The Fund shall use its funds in some or all of the following activities:
 - (1) To provide a perpetual source of financial assistance to Cheyenne and Arapaho students of all ages.
 - (2) To engage in charitable activities in support of the educational needs, goals, and programs of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.
 - (3) To provide a perpetual source of funds for educational research of importance to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

- (4) To provide a perpetual source of funds for other educational programs of importance to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.
 - (5) To foster the creation of new and creative strategies to address Cheyenne and Arapaho educational needs.
 - (6) To provide new and innovative fiscal methods to address the unique difficulties faced by the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes in the area of education and the provision of educational opportunities.
- (d) The Fund shall enjoy all powers necessary or convenient to achieve the purposes for which it is organized, including but not limited to:
- (1) To sell for cash or on credit, convert, redeem, exchange for other securities or other property, or otherwise dispose of any securities or other property at any time held by it.
 - (2) To invest, reinvest, or deal with the principal income of any investment of the Fund in such
- (e) No substantial part of the activities of the Fund shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation. The Fund shall not participate or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements) any political campaign or activity on behalf of any candidate or potential candidate for public office.
- (f) No part of the principal or the income of the Fund shall inure to benefit of any Member, anyone on the Executive Board, or any Officer of the Fund or to any other private person, except that the Fund shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions to further the purposes for which it is organized.
- (g) The Fund shall provide in its solicitation and accounting procedures for the earmarking of contributions for particular education purposes as well as providing for the solicitation and accounting of the non-earmarked contributions. The Fund shall adopt procedures adequate to ensure that funds received for a particular purpose, and income received from such funds, are applied to the purposes for which they were contributed.

CHAPTER 8: EXPRESS LIMITATIONS OF AUTHORITY: CAEFF IS EXPRESSLY PROHIBITED FROM:

§11.009 Express Limitation of CAEFF Authority

- (a) Purchasing real property.

CHAPTER 9: OTHER PROVISIONS

§11.010 Coordination

CAEEF, the Department of Education, and any other educational institutions created by the Tribe, shall coordinate together to assist with the alignment of educational priorities, program funding, and endowment distributions.

§11.011 Provisions as Cumulative

The provisions of this act shall be cumulative to existing law.

§11.012 Construction

This Act shall be liberally construed to carry out its purpose. The effectiveness and enforceability of this Act shall not be dependent upon the adoption of any regulations promulgated hereunder shall be construed to diminish, limit or otherwise adversely affect any right, remedy held or available to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

§11.013 Severability

If any section of this Act, or any part thereof, or any application thereof to any party, person or entity or in any circumstance shall be held invalid for any reason whatsoever by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the section or part of the Act shall not be affected and shall remain in full force and effect as though no section or part has been declared to be invalid.

§11.014 Statement of Supersedure

This Act shall supersede any law in place before it, which conflict with its intent and purpose.

§11.015 Effective Date

This Act shall be effective on the latter of November 1, 2025 or 30 days after signature by the Governor as provided in the Constitution.