

ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
OF THE  
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES  
REGULAR SESSION  
SEPTEMBER 12, 2026  
LCR, CONCHO, OK

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|                         |                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>RESOLUTION:</b>      | A Resolution to Appropriate Funds to the Food Pantry to Provide Services to Tribal Members that Reside Outside the State of Oklahoma. |
| <b>RESOLUTION NO:</b>   | 11L-RS-2026-09-001                                                                                                                    |
| <b>DATE INTRODUCED:</b> | August 3, 2026                                                                                                                        |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b>         | Bruce Whiteman, Jr., District C1                                                                                                      |
| <b>CO-SPONSOR:</b>      | Travis Ruiz, District A3                                                                                                              |

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**SUBJECT:** A Resolution to Appropriate Funds to the Food Pantry to Provide Services to Tribal Members that Reside Outside the State of Oklahoma.

**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

**WHEREAS:** Article VI, Section 5(a) of the Constitution provides that the Legislative power shall be vested in the Legislature; and

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

**WHEREAS:** The Eleventh Legislature of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes is aware of the importance of ensuring that all Tribal Members are provided equal opportunity to services offered by the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes; and

**WHEREAS:** The Eleventh Legislature of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes recognizes that Tribal Members who reside outside the State of Oklahoma may not have equal access to local holiday events (e.g. food drives for holidays) offered to Tribal Members that reside within Legislative Districts; and

**WHEREAS:** Gift cards purchased pursuant to Resolution No. 10L-RS-2025-10-009, which was subsequently amended by Resolution No. 10L-SS-1030-001, remain undistributed and are available to be distributed for the same purpose authorized by this Resolution; and

**WHEREAS:** The Legislature intends to maximize distribution of all valid prior-year gift cards and the assistance funded by this Resolution by providing application opportunities for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays; and

**WHEREAS:** The Cheyenne and Arapaho General Welfare Exclusion Act, including 2 CAC §§ 2.1509, 2.1511, 2.1517, and 2.1518, authorizes Legislature-approved general welfare programs, requires legislative approval of program eligibility rules and limitations, and assigns administration and development of implementing policies to the responsible Administrative Entity; and

**WHEREAS:** The Eleventh Legislature of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes determines that it is in the best interest of the Tribes to appropriate funds to the Food Pantry to provide seventy-five-dollar (\$75.00) gift cards as holiday food assistance to Tribal Members between 18 and 54 years of age who reside outside the State of Oklahoma for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that, to be eligible, an applicant must, at the time of application, be an enrolled Tribal Member, reside outside the State of Oklahoma, and be between 18 and 54 years of age. No eligible Tribal Member may receive more than one gift card under this Resolution; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Eleventh Legislature of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, pursuant to its constitutional authority, hereby appropriates fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) from Tax Commission funds to the Food Pantry for the purchase and distribution of seventy-five-dollar (\$75.00) gift cards to eligible Tribal Members, together with the administrative costs necessary to carry out this Resolution, including temporary or seasonal workers, gift card fees, and mailing expenses; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that, beginning on the effective date of this Resolution, all valid and usable gift cards purchased pursuant to Resolution No. 10L-SS-1030-001 that remain undistributed shall be administered and distributed in accordance with this Resolution; and, solely to the extent of any conflict concerning those remaining gift cards, this Resolution supersedes Resolution No. 10L-SS-1030-001, with all nonconflicting provisions of that resolution remaining in full force and effect; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Food Pantry shall use all valid and usable gift cards remaining from Resolution No. 10L-SS-1030-001 before distributing gift cards purchased with funds appropriated by this Resolution; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Food Pantry, as the administering Executive Branch program, shall develop and implement an application form and reasonable administrative procedures consistent with this Resolution and the Cheyenne and Arapaho General Welfare Exclusion Act; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that, during calendar year 2026, the Food Pantry shall establish, reopen, or extend application periods as reasonably necessary to provide eligible Tribal Members sufficient opportunity to apply and to distribute all valid and usable gift cards available under this Resolution, to the extent reasonably feasible; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that gift cards shall be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis to verified eligible applicants, subject to available inventory. The gift cards constitute holiday food assistance, and the Food Pantry shall use reasonable administrative controls consistent with the General Welfare Exclusion Act to limit the assistance to its authorized purpose; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Department of Treasury shall hold and safeguard any undistributed gift cards as financial assets of the Tribes. No such gift card may be distributed, transferred, or used unless authorized by a subsequent law or resolution enacted through the Legislative Process. Any funds appropriated by this Resolution that remain unexpended after completion of the authorized program shall be returned to the fund from which they were appropriated for subsequent appropriation.



Kendricks Sleeper  
Speaker of the Eleventh 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. 11L-RS-2026-09-001 which was acted upon by the Legislature of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes in the Ninth Regular Session, by a roll call vote on the 12th day of September 2026, by a vote.

**VOTE RECORD:**

| DISTRICT                                                         | LEGISLATOR            | YES | NO | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| A1                                                               | Pamela Sutton         | ✓   |    |         |        |
| A2                                                               | Kendricks Sleeper     | ✓   |    |         |        |
| A3                                                               | Travis Ruiz           | ✓   |    |         |        |
| A4                                                               | Rector Candy          | ✓   |    |         |        |
| C1                                                               | Bruce Whiteman, Jr.   | ✓   |    |         |        |
| C2                                                               | Milan Roman Nose, Jr. | ✓   |    |         |        |
| C3                                                               | Thomas Trout          | ✓   |    |         |        |
| C4                                                               | Mariah Youngbull      | ✓   |    |         |        |
| TOTAL                                                            |                       | 8   |    |         |        |
| Passes (X) Fails ( ) Tabled ( ) Allowed to Die ( ) No Action ( ) |                       |     |    |         |        |

Pursuant to Article VI, Section 5, subsection (a) of the Tribes Constitution reads in part: "Tie votes in the Legislature shall be decided by the Governor."

|          |                | YES | NO | ABSENT |
|----------|----------------|-----|----|--------|
| Governor | Reggie Wassana |     |    |        |

  
Jodi White Buffalo, Legislative Clerk  
Eleventh 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 12<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2026.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Reggie Wassana, Governor  
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes



**TRANSMITTAL OF DOCUMENTS:**

**From the Legislative Branch to the Office of Records Management**

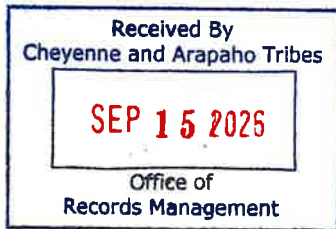
**ATTEST:**

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. 11L-RS-2026-09-001.

Space below is reserved for Stamp:

Received (Date) Office of Record Management



Signature: Cheryl Blind  
Print Name: Cheryl Blind  
Title: Director  
Date: 9/15/2026

Office of Records Management  
Department of Administration, Executive Branch  
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes

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