

YOUR NAME

YOUR ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

DATE

President Joe Biden
1600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden:

As a citizen of the Cherokee Nation and the United States, I write to you today urge your support for renewing the United States' commitment to the the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The Declaration is a historic international instrument that recognizes inherent rights of indigenous peoples to guard against the theft of lands and resources, eradication of native languages and tribal cultures, discrimination, and the political exclusion that tribal nations too often continue to face today. The Declaration contains the "minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the Indigenous Peoples of the world."

The United Nations General Assembly first adopted the Declaration in 2007, and due to overwhelming support from tribal leaders across the country, the United States formally supported the Declaration in 2010. Now the United States is considering renewing its support of the Declaration, which Tribal Nations will greatly benefit from if the provisions of the Declaration are implemented.

I appreciate how your Administration has made historic political appointments of Native Americans, including in the Presidential Cabinet, agency solicitors, the federal bench, and many other positions. I also appreciate your commitment to strengthening the government-to-government relationship with Indian tribes by taking steps to ensure that the voices of tribal leaders are heard through robust consultations on policies that affect tribal communities. Renewing support for the Declaration would be a great next step in line with these goals.

I ask that you direct The White House Native American Affairs Council to develop a national action plan for implementing the provisions of the Declaration, including a request for all federal departments and agencies to issue policies and internal guidance to achieve the ends of the Declaration, and to report annually to the Council on their progress.

I also ask that you appoint an Ambassador or Special Envoy for Global Indigenous Affairs to coordinate all international engagements by the United States in matters regarding Indigenous Affairs, including at the United Nations, the Organization of American States, and with other governments.

Finally, I hope you will support the full and effective participation of tribal governments, through their own representative institutions, in all United Nations bodies, including but not limited to the General Assembly, Human Rights Council, UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, World Intellectual Property Organization, World Health Organization, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and other international and regional forums, including the Organization of American States.

Thank you for your ongoing support for Indian Country.

Sincerely,

NAME