



**RESOLUTION
LS-2025-01**

**RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY
THE LITTLE SHELL TRIBAL COUNCIL**

**SUPPORTING THE
MONTANA INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT**

- WHEREAS,** The Little Shell Tribe was restored to federal recognition on December 20, 2019 pursuant to the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians Restoration Act of 2019, Pub. L. 116-92, § 2870; and
- WHEREAS,** The Constitution of the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians secures the right of self-government and the administration of internal tribal affairs; and
- WHEREAS,** Article I, Section II of the Constitution provides that the governing body of the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana shall be known as the Tribal Council consisting of the Chairman, First Vice Chairman, Second Vice Chairman, Secretary-Treasurer, and three Council Members; and
- WHEREAS,** Article I, Section III provides that the Executive Board shall consist of the Chairman, First Vice-Chairman, Second Vice-Chairman, and Secretary-Treasurer; and
- WHEREAS,** The Tribal Council is entrusted with providing for the health and safety of all Little Shell Tribal citizens; and
- WHEREAS,** For decades, it was common practice for public and private agencies to remove Native children from their homes to be placed in non-Native foster and adoptive homes; and
- WHEREAS,** The United States Congress passed the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 (“ICWA”) to uplift tribal sovereignty to ensure that tribal governments retain protection of Indian children facing removal from their families and tribal communities; and

WHEREAS, The Montana Legislature passed the Montana Indian Child Welfare Act of 2023 (“MICWA”) to enshrine ICWA provisions and provide additional protections at the state level; and

WHEREAS, The Tribal Council believes that the MICWA upholds the inherent sovereign rights of the Little Shell Tribe, provides the ability for the Tribe to preserve our cultural values, and allows the Tribe to promote stable placements of Little Shell children in homes connected to their families and our culture; and

WHEREAS, The MICWA is set to expire June 30, 2025; and

WHEREAS, The Tribal Council wishes to support efforts to reauthorize the MICWA.

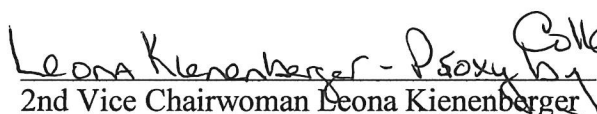
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tribal council supports the reauthorization of the Montana Indian Child Welfare Act. **FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED,** that this resolution takes effect immediately upon Tribal Council signatures.

ATTESTATION

We, the undersigned Tribal Council members acting in our official capacities as the legal leadership of the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana certify that the above resolution is the true and accurate resolution adopted at a meeting called and conducted on **January 3, 2025** with a quorum being present. Each signatory below indicates the vote by circling the choice on Resolution **LS-2025-01** as follows:


Chairman Gerald Gray FOR / AGAINST 1/3/25
Date


1st Vice Chairman Clarence Sivertsen FOR / AGAINST 1/3/25
Date


2nd Vice Chairwoman Leona Kienenberger FOR / AGAINST 1-3-2025
Date


Secretary-Treasurer Colleen Hill FOR / AGAINST 1-3-2025
Date

Iris Kill Eagle - Proxy by Colleen Hill (FOR) AGAINST 1-3-2025
Council Member - Iris Kill Eagle Date

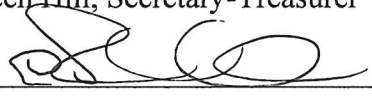
Alisa Herodes (FOR) AGAINST 1/3/25
Council Member - Alisa Herodes Date

[VACANT] FOR / AGAINST _____
Council Member - Vacant Date

CERTIFICATION

I, Colleen Hill, the Secretary-Treasurer of the Tribal Council, or designated agent, hereby certify that a duly called meeting was held and that Resolution **LS-2025-01** was approved and enacted on **January 3, 2025**. The Tribal Council voted as follows:

6 in favor
_____ opposed
_____ abstain
_____ absent

By: Colleen Hill, Secretary-Treasurer

Signature

Colleen Hill
Printed Name

Title: Council Secretary / Treasurer

Date: 1-3-2025