

WHEREAS, the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas is a federally recognized Indian Tribe located in Polk County, Texas and committed to supporting the economic development and creation of jobs within Polk and surrounding counties of Deep East Texas; and

WHEREAS, with the opening of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas's Naskila Gaming electronic bingo facility, the Tribe has created over 561 new jobs in Deep East Texas and is responsible for nearly \$140 million annually in revenue to the region, jobs and revenue that would not exist but for Naskila;

WHEREAS, the state is pursuing litigation that threatens to close Naskila Gaming and such closure would negatively impact the economy of both the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas and Deep East Texas and result in significant loss of jobs; and

WHEREAS, Congressman Brian Babin has filed H.R. 759 to clarify conflicting federal laws regarding the right of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas to offer Class II electronic bingo on their tribal lands pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, a right enjoyed and exercised by the Traditional Kickapoo Tribe of Texas since 1996;

WHEREAS, the passage of H.R. 759 is vital to continued economic development and health of both the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas and all Deep East Texas;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE JASPER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION hereby the Jasper Economic Development Corporation joins the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas in support of its effort for passage of federal legislation to clarify that the Tribe can enjoy the opportunity for tribal economic development on terms that are equal and fair and to protect jobs.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, the Jasper Economic Development Corporation urgently requests that United States Senators John Cornyn and Ted Cruz, as well as the other 35 Texans elected to the United States House of Representatives, aid Congressman Babin in securing the enactment of H.R. 759 into law.



Danny Walker President



Bill Snelson, Vice-president



Charles Warren, Secretary-Treasurer