



THE WACCAMAW INDIAN PEOPLE
An Indian Tribe recognized by the state of South Carolina
Charter Member of the South Carolina Indian Affairs Commission
P.O. Box 928., Conway SC 29528
591 Bluewater Rd., Aynor, SC 29511
Office of the Chief

March 31, 2025

The Honorable Edwin C. Goodwin
North Carolina General Assembly
Legislative Building
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

Re: Letter of Support for the Recognition of the Tuscarora Indians of Kahtenuaka Territories

Dear Representative Goodwin,

On behalf of The Waccamaw Indian People, please find this letter indicating our support of H.B. 600, and the petition by the Tuscarora Indians of Kahtenuaka Territories in their pursuit of official recognition by the State of North Carolina.

The Tuscarora Indians of Kahtenuaka Territories has a history of being one of the most powerful and formidable tribes in the region. Their history pre-dates the forming of both the State of North Carolina and the United States of America. The preceding historical document espouses a narrative that represents the relationship that existed and continues to this day. "Whereas the Tuscarora (sic) Indians have for more than a century been the firm and undeviating friends of the white people of this country insomuch that the State of North Carolina is disposed not only to render to them full and complete justice, but also to exercise towards them that spirit of generosity which their conduct has merited, . . ." (Grimes, 1911)

For tribal nations, particularly in the southeast, survival was, nevertheless, a matter of balancing between preservation of culture and forming relationships that would allow for a continuation of tribal community. The resilience and tenacity of the Tuscarora Indians of Kahtenuaka Territories should not only be recognized but also celebrated as an important part of the State of North Carolina's history, as they continue to demonstrate their longstanding contributions within Bertie County and beyond. We believe this can only be done through formal status of recognition by the State of North Carolina.

The Waccamaw Indian People, therefore, stand in full support of the petition by the Tuscarora Indians of Kahtenuaka Territories, and we pray for a favorable review.

Thank you,
Cheryl M. Cail
Cheryl M. Cail
Acting Chief
Waccamaw Indian People

cc: Chief Harold D. Hatcher, Alan Faver, Jennifer Hatcher

Reference

Grimes, J. Bryan. "A Letter Concerning the Lands Formerly Held by the Tuscarora Indians in Bertie County, North Carolina : North Carolina. Secretary of State : "State of North Carolina, Department of State, Raleigh, April 5, 1911"--P. [3]. Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming." *Internet Archive*, [Raleigh, N.C. : State of North Carolina, Dept. of State], Uploaded: 6 Sept. 2011.