

WHEREAS, Revered Chickasaw leader, Piominko, also known as "Mountain Leader," was born and resided in the heart of the historic Chickasaw Homeland, located in what is now present day Tupelo, Mississippi, from approximately 1750 to 1798; and

WHEREAS, Piominko was the most influential and important Chickasaw ally of the United States during the early formation of the new American republic, and his leadership was critical both for the United States and the Chickasaw Nation.

WHEREAS, During the American Revolutionary War, Piominko was given a commission as an officer by President George Washington, and in 1794 he was presented with a peace medal by President Washington both for his service in the Revolution and his invaluable efforts in formalizing peaceful relations between the two nations; and

WHEREAS, Piominko and President Washington signed the Treaty between the Chickasaw and United States of 1786, also known as the Treaty of Hopewell which formalized the Chickasaw Nation's alliance with the fledgling United States government and formally defined the tribal boundaries, and Piominko acted as a Chickasaw diplomat in meetings with southeastern tribes, state governors and President Washington; and

WHEREAS, in 2005 the Rotary Club of Tupelo was instrumental in the commissioning and dedication of a 6-foot-tall Piominko statue which now stands prominently in front of City Hall at Fairpark in downtown Tupelo, and to this day, Rotary continues to work to increase public awareness of Piominko's legacy and historical significance in Tupelo and North Mississippi, and

WHEREAS, in 2008 the Chickasaw Nation proclaimed the second Monday in October as Piominko Day which is to be celebrated annually in perpetuity, and Piominko is recognized as a seminal figure in the history of Tupelo and Northeast Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, The Chickasaw Inkana Foundation along with the Daughters of the American Revolution and the City of Tupelo will continue to work with the Chickasaw Nation and other regional partners to increase awareness of the importance of Chickasaw culture and history and preserve, protect and interpret Chickasaw culture and history in the historic Chickasaw Homeland;

NOW THEREFORE, Todd Jordan, Mayor of Tupelo, Mississippi, does hereby proclaim October 11, 2021 as

PIOMINKO DAY

In Tupelo, Mississippi, and encourage all citizens to recognize Piominko for his extraordinary leadership of the Chickasaw people and his dedicated efforts to secure peace between the United States and the Chickasaw Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Tupelo to be affixed this the 5th day of October, the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty one.

ATTEST:

Brady Davis, CEO, Chickasaw Inkana Foundation

Todd Jordan, Mayor

Patricia H. Miller, Regent Mary Stuart Chapter, MSSDAR

Kim Hanna, City Clerk

Susie Dent, Mary Stuart Chapter MSSDAR Chairperson, Native American-Historical Preservation Committee

Audrey Leckie, Senior President. Olde Towne Society Children of the American Revolution