



HO-CHUNK NATION LEGISLATURE

Governing Body of the Ho-Chunk Nation

HO-CHUNK NATION LEGISLATURE AUTHORIZATION AND CREATION OF THE HO-CHUNK NATION TRIBAL SUSTAINABILITY TASK FORCE

RESOLUTION NO. 09-17-13 I

- WHEREAS,** on November 1, 1994, the Secretary of the Interior approved a new Constitution for the Ho-Chunk Nation, formerly known as the Wisconsin Winnebago Nation; and
- WHEREAS,** the Ho-Chunk Nation ("Nation") is a federally recognized Indian Tribe, pursuant to the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934; and
- WHEREAS,** the Legislature of the Ho-Chunk Nation is the duly constituted governing body of the Ho-Chunk Nation ("Legislature") pursuant to the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation; and
- WHEREAS,** Article V, Section 2 (a) of the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation grants the Legislature to make laws, including codes, ordinances, resolutions, and statutes; and
- WHEREAS,** Article V, Section 2(b) of the Constitution grants the Legislature the power to establish Executive Departments, and to delegate legislative powers to the Executive branch to be administered by such Departments, in accordance with the law; any Department established by the Legislature shall be administered by the Executive; the Legislature reserves the power to review any action taken by virtue of such delegated power; and
- WHEREAS,** Article V, Section 2(r) of the Constitution authorizes the Legislature to protect and foster Ho-Chunk religious freedom, culture, language, and traditions; and
- WHEREAS,** Article V, Section 2(s) of the Constitution gives the Legislature the authority to promote public health, education, charity, and such other services as may contribute to the social advancement of the members of the Nation; and
- WHEREAS,** Article V, Section 2(x) of the Constitution grants the Legislature the power to enact any other laws, ordinances, resolutions, and statutes necessary to exercise its legislative powers delegated by the General Council pursuant to Article III including but not limited to the foregoing list of powers; and
- WHEREAS,** the Ho-Chunk Nation *Legislative Organization Act*, 2 HCC §11, ("LOA") provides in Section 10 that an internal Work Group or Task Force may be established in order to assist the Legislature by providing information necessary to carry out Legislative law-making and oversight functions; and

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WHEREAS, the Nation's *Open Meetings Act*, 2 HCC §2, contemplates that a Work Group or Task Force will be used as a temporary, short-term ad hoc body established by a governmental entity for a focused effort on a specific issue; and

WHEREAS, the LOA does not restrict Legislator(s) participation in a Ho-Chunk government task force(s) as an ex officio member when appointed by the Legislature, and

WHEREAS, global weather patterns and temperature are becoming more extreme and will continue to challenge global energy and food systems; and

WHEREAS, the supply of fossil fuels is finite; and

WHEREAS, the people of the Hocak Nation are largely dependent on a fossil fuel based industrial growth economy; and

WHEREAS, there is no guarantee that economic activity from gaming will continue in the years to come at its current level; and

WHEREAS, other tribes have enacted sustainability initiatives and can serve as examples in how to change current tribal practices; and

WHEREAS, the present economy is not sustainable in isolation, and for the long-term; and

WHEREAS, reliance on the industrial food system has not lead to an increase in health for the Hocak Nation's people; and

WHEREAS, a truly sovereign nation should be able to provide food and energy for itself in some capacity; and

WHEREAS, there is at this time no active effort within the Hocak Nation's programs to promote such sovereignty through the development of sustainable systems.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature deems it appropriate to create a Legislative Sustainability Task Force with members from all departments within the Nation to develop a plan to promote social, environmental and economic sustainability for all governmental entities and citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said Task Force may consist of these members: any interested Legislators, such Legislative personnel as deemed necessary by Legislators, any Legislative Paralegal, Legislative Counsel or Attorney; also, staff from the Office of the President, as determined by the President; also, any personnel deemed necessary by the President; and any Department of Justice attorneys; and any other staff or employees invited by the Legislature; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sustainability Task Force shall report on their activity and progress, in writing, to the Legislature after each meeting of the Workgroup, whether through written minutes or otherwise; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Task Force created herein shall not be considered a Public Body under the HCN Open Meetings Act and shall be not be required to adhere to Quorum requirements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Task Force is authorized to begin meeting after adoption of this resolution.

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Tribal Secretary for the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature, hereby certify that the Legislature of the Ho-Chunk Nation, composed of 8 members, of whom ___ constituting a quorum were present at the meeting duly called and convened and held on the 17th day of September 2013, adopted the foregoing resolution at said meeting by an affirmative vote of 8 members, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining, pursuant to the authority of the Article V, Section 2(a) through (x) of the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation approved by the Secretary of the Interior on November 1, 1994, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way. I further certify that this is a verified copy of said resolution.

Kathleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit
Kathleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit, Tribal Secretary

9.17.13
Date

