



## **HO-CHUNK NATION LEGISLATURE**

*Governing Body of the Ho-Chunk Nation*

### **HO-CHUNK NATION LEGISLATURE DECLARATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR HO-CHUNK NATION COMMUNITIES, FAMILIES AND CHILDREN RELATED TO AODA ISSUES**

#### **RESOLUTION 10-21-14JJ**

**WHEREAS,** on November 1, 1994, the United States Secretary of Interior approved a new Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation, formerly known as the Wisconsin Winnebago Nation; and

**WHEREAS,** the Ho-Chunk Nation ("Nation") is a federally recognized Indian Tribe, organized pursuant to the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934; 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(h) of the Constitution grants the Legislature the power to enact all laws prohibiting and regulating conduct, and imposing penalties upon all persons within the jurisdiction of the Nation; and

**WHEREAS,** Article V, Section 2(r) of the Constitution grants the Legislature the power to protect and foster Ho-Chunk religious freedom, culture, language, and traditions; and

**WHEREAS,** Article V, Section 2(s) of the Constitution grants the Legislature the power to promote public health, education, charity, and such other services as may contribute to the social advancement of the members of the Ho-Chunk Nation; and

#### **Executive Offices**

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**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,** on June 11, 2014 at the District 1 Black River Falls Area Meeting a motion passed to “form a Taskforce to deal with drug use, selling, manufacturing, dealing in our communities”; and

**WHEREAS,** the Legislature created an A.O.D.A. Prevention Taskforce in order to develop a coordinated and in-depth strategy to address Alcohol and Other Drug Addiction in Ho-Chunk communities through education and prevention; and

**WHEREAS,** the A.O.D.A. Prevention Taskforce was created by Resolution 07-22-14E and it consists of employees, staff and officials from the Executive Branch, including but not limited to the Departments of Children and Family Services and Behavioral Health and the Legislative Branch to address A.O.D.A. Prevention; and

**WHEREAS,** the Nation’s Department of Social Services received recent disturbing reports of increasing opiate addictions, as well as the presence of marijuana and alcohol, in tribal member newborns that were referred to the Department; and

**WHEREAS,** the Legislature finds it appropriate to treat this A.O.D.A. issue as a critical priority of the Nation, and devote the necessary attention and effort to prevent ongoing problems in Ho-Chunk communities and in Ho-Chunk families.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature, pursuant to its constitutional authority, hereby declares a State of Emergency in the Ho-Chunk Nation related to drug addiction and illegal use, especially affecting the Nation’s Youth and Families, and increasing the number of referrals to the Nation’s Department of Social Services; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the President and Legislature of the Nation make this a critical priority of the Nation and take active steps to prevent ongoing concerns and educate the Nation’s membership and employees in order to alleviate the growing concerns; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Legislature hereby mandates that all employees of the Nation attend a training to learn more about the issues, in order to help improve the Nation’s efforts; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the A.O.D.A. Prevention Taskforce convene and assess the issues, in order to develop a plan in conjunction with the Executive Branch to address the problems.

## CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature, hereby certify that the Legislature of the Ho-Chunk Nation, composed of 13 members of whom 11 constituting a quorum were present at a meeting duly called and convened and held on the **21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2014**, that the foregoing resolution was adopted at said meeting by an affirmative vote of **10** members, **0** opposed, and **1** abstaining, pursuant to the Article V, Section 2 (a) and (x) of the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation approved by the Secretary of the Interior on November 1, 1994, and that the foregoing 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

10.21.14  
Date

