



# HO-CHUNK NATION LEGISLATURE

*Governing Body of the Ho-Chunk Nation*

**HO-CHUNK NATION LEGISLATURE  
DENIAL OF RESCISSION AND RESTATEMENT  
OF RESOLUTION 10-05-10G  
Hocak Wazijaci Nation Veterans Home Ownership Act**

**Resolution 12-03-13J**

- WHEREAS,** On November 1, 1994, the Secretary of the Interior approved a new Constitution for the Hocak Wazijaci Nation, formerly known as the Wisconsin Winnebago Nation; and
- WHEREAS,** the Hocak Wazijaci Nation is a federally recognized Indian Tribe, organized pursuant to the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934; and
- WHEREAS,** pursuant to Article IV, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Hocak Wazijaci Nation grants all inherent sovereign powers to the General Council; and
- WHEREAS,** pursuant to Article IV, Section 1, all eligible voters of the Hocak Wazijaci Nation are entitled to participate in General Council; and
- WHEREAS,** Article V, Section 2(a) of the Ho-Chunk Nation Constitution ("Constitution") gives the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature ("Legislature") the power to make laws, including codes, ordinances, resolutions, and statutes; and
- WHEREAS,** Article V, Section 2(d) of the Constitution grants the Legislature the power to authorize expenditures by law and appropriate funds to the various Departments in an annual budget; 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(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,** pursuant to the percepts embodied in the Preamble of the Constitution, it references the essentiality of perpetuating key elements of our tribal existence through the exercise of our "...inherent sovereignty, (in order to)...sustain our culture, promote our traditions and perpetuate our existence..."; and

**Executive Offices**

W9814 Airport Road • P.O. Box 667 • Black River Falls, WI 54615  
(715)294-9343 • Fax (715)284-3172

**WHEREAS,** the existence of the Hocak Wazijaci Nation has historically relied upon the fearlessness of its warriors to safeguard its people and territory, which accounts for our continued existence yet today, and

**WHEREAS,** such resolve is evidenced in five treaties (more than any other North American Indian Tribe) with the United States of America and is a testament to the willingness and rugged determination of our past warriors, and has been demonstrated by our present day combat veterans, and

**WHEREAS,** war honors in combat can only be attained at great peril to one's life and from the foundation of our unique Hocak wazijaci Nation tribal culture, and

**WHEREAS,** the distinction of a warrior is exemplified through an honorable discharge coupled with citations attesting to exemplary conduct in the face of an armed enemy, and

**WHEREAS,** many of our honorably discharged combat veterans have unfortunately been ignored for housing and passed away (some homeless) without ever having received housing assistance, and

**WHEREAS,** a tribal member's warrior class identity apparently becomes reduced into ambiguity in terms of the effect of veterans status points while awaiting elder status to receive housing, to the point where such status is of no consequence or advantage while contending with the negating effects of political or familial favoritism in the selection process; and

**WHEREAS,** the Legislature adopted Resolution 10-05-10G regarding the Veterans Home Ownership Program, allocating \$4 million into a restricted fund for such purposes, but also establishing six (6) additional guidelines for the program; and

**WHEREAS,** the Legislature has been asked to rescind and restate Resolution 10-05-10G.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the hardships of combat duty and peacetime duty be recognized by the establishment of a separate class for Honorably Discharged Hocak warriors for the purpose of expediting the acquisition of housing for this heretofore ignored and deserving special segment of tribal society who invariably still bear the physical, psychological and spiritual burdens of their warriorhood experience; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Legislature, pursuant to its authority under the Constitution, does rescind Resolution 10-05-10G and restates it according to the terms of this resolution; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that in order to begin fulfilling this minimally addressed need, the Legislature of the Hocak Wazijaci Nation hereby takes legislative action to:

- 1) Establish a Veterans Home Ownership Act (VHOA) in FY 2011-2012;
- 2) Allocate \$4,000,000.00 into a restricted fund; with continuous annual funding in the same amount.

**CERTIFICATION**

I, the undersigned, as Tribal Secretary of Ho-Chunk Nation, hereby certify that the Legislature of the Ho-Chunk Nation, composed of **13** members of whom **12** constituting a quorum were present at a meeting duly called and convened and held that on the **3<sup>rd</sup> day of December, 2013**, adopted the foregoing resolution at said meeting by an **affirmative vote of 8 members, 3 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

12.9.13  
Date

