



HO-CHUNK NATION LEGISLATURE

Governing Body of the Ho-Chunk Nation

HO-CHUNK NATION LEGISLATURE SUPPORT TRIBAL FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION ACCESS ACT 2007 RESOLUTION 2-05-08 E

- WHEREAS,** on November 1, 1994, the United States Secretary of the Interior approved a new Constitution for the Ho-Chunk Nation, formerly known as the Wisconsin Winnebago Tribe; 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 Ho-Chunk Nation Constitution ("Constitution") grants the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature ("Legislature") the power to make laws, including codes, ordinances, resolutions, and statutes; 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(i) of the Constitution grants the Legislature the power to negotiate and enter into treaties, compacts, contracts, and agreements with other governments, organizations, or individuals; 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
- WHEREAS,** Article V, Section 2(t) of the Constitution grants the Legislature the power to enact laws governing law enforcement on lands within the jurisdiction of the Nation; and
- WHEREAS,** Article V, Section 2(u) of the Constitution grants the Legislature the power to enact laws to regulate domestic relations of person within the jurisdiction 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,** Title IV-E is a subpart of Title IV of the United States federal Social Security Act. This program provides federal reimbursement to states for the costs of children placed in foster homes or other types of out-of-home care under a court order or voluntary placement agreement; and
- WHEREAS,** nearly 10,000 American Indian/Alaska Native children are in the United States' foster care system today; and

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- WHEREAS,** the number of American Indian/Alaska Native children in foster care is disproportionately higher than non-Indian children; and
- WHEREAS,** under existing law, the United States government's largest source of support for children in the foster care system is generally not available to Indian children and tribal governments that care for them; and
- WHEREAS,** the majority of tribes are forced to place their children in foster care or adoptive homes with little or no support from the government; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Foster Care and Adoption Access Act of 2007 would allow tribes, tribal organizations, or tribal consortia to apply directly to the United States federal government to receive Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance funding; and
- WHEREAS,** six leading National Child Welfare Organizations provided testimony at a Congressional hearing recommending the passage of the Tribal Foster Care and Adoption Access Act of 2007.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ho-Chunk Legislature, pursuant to its Constitutional authority, hereby supports the passage of the Tribal Foster Care and Adoption Access Act of 2007.

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Tribal Secretary for the Ho-Chunk Nation, hereby certify that the Legislature of the Ho-Chunk Nation, composed of **11 members**, of whom **9** constituting a quorum were present at a meeting duly called and convened and held on the **5th day of February, 2008**, that the foregoing resolution was adopted at said meeting by an affirmative vote of **9 members, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining**, pursuant to the authority of 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 said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way. I further certify that this is a verified copy of said resolution.



Elliott Garvin, Tribal Secretary

2-5-08

Date