



HO-CHUNK NATION LEGISLATURE

Governing Body of the Ho-Chunk Nation

HO-CHUNK NATION LEGISLATURE

Hocak Wazijaci Nation

Veterans Home Ownership Program

Resolution 10-05-10 G

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, Pursuant to the precepts 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

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

Resolution No. 10-05-10 G

Executive Offices

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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;

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 experiences, 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 Program (VHOP) in FY 2011-2012;
- 2) Allocate \$4,000,000.00 into a restricted fund;
- 3) Utilize other outside resources so that benefits available from the Veterans Administration such as the Special Adaptive Housing Program for Disabled Veterans;
- 4) Create appropriate criteria in order to award veterans points to qualify for home ownership in the VHOP category;
- 5) Replenish funding on the basis of annual need or until all 149 known, current and future honorably discharged veterans are serviced;
- 6) Implement inheritance criteria which conform to a priority ordering of the immediate familial grouping, tribal members, and thence to the Hocak Wazijaci Nation in accordance with VHOP guidelines, and;
- 7) Maintain the VHOP in administratively viable condition insofar as gaming revenues are capable of sustaining the housing initiative and maintain it as a service to Hocak Wazijaci tribal veterans.

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 **11** constituting a quorum were present at a meeting duly called and convened and held

that on the 5th day of **October, 2010**, that the foregoing resolution was adopted at said meeting by an affirmative vote of **10 members, 0 opposed, and 1 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.

Hope B. Smith

Hope B. Smith, Tribal Secretary

October 5, 2010

Date

