



**HO-CHUNK NATION CODE (HCC)
TITLE 2 – GOVERNMENT CODE
SECTION 11 – LEGISLATIVE ORGANIZATION ACT OF 2001**

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This Act supersedes the Ho-Chunk Nation’s Bill Process rules enacted February 8, 1995 by Ho-Chunk Nation Legislative Resolution 02/08/95A and amended by Legislative Resolution 7/2/96D and as further substantially amended by Resolution 8-5-08-D and subsequent Amendments to specific provisions on 11/05/08 and 12/10/08 and 06/09/09.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter I - General

1. Authority	3
2. Purpose	3
3. Scope	4
4. Definitions	4

Chapter II - Legislative Procedures

5. Appointment of the Vice President	7
6. Duties of the Vice President	7
7. Appointment and Duties of the Tribal Secretary.....	8
8. Duties of the Secretary of the Legislature or Committee(s)	9
9. Duties of the Members of the Legislature	9
10. Rules of the Legislature	10
11. Procedures of Legislative Meetings	14

Chapter III - Standing Legislative Committees

12. Establishment and Composition of Standing Legislative Committees	18
13. Quorum	19
14. Selection of Presiding and Second Presiding Officer	20
15. Absence of Presiding Officer,	

Second Presiding Officer, or Member	20
16. Jurisdiction	21
17. General Oversight Responsibilities	23
18. Election and Membership of Legislators onto Standing Committees	24
19. Duties of Standing Committee Presiding Officer	24
20. Rules of Procedure for Standing Committees	24
21. Hearings and Investigative Hearings of the Standing Committees	26
22. Quorum for Taking Testimony	26
23. Investigative Hearing Procedures	27
24. Subpoena Power	28
25. Presentation of Outside Vendor Proposals	28
26. Adoption of Standing Committee Recommendations by the Full Legislature	30
27. Legislative Recognition Citations	30

Chapter IV - Legislation Process

28. General	30
29. Ho-Chunk Nation Code	30
30. Quick Passage Procedures	30
31. Normal Legislation Process	31
32. Technical Violations	38
33. Publishing a Law	39
34. Legislation Format	39
35. Citations	41
36. Distribution Policy	41

Chapter V - Continuity of Government

37. Purpose	42
38. Vacancies in the Legislature	42
39. Scope	43
40. Authority	43

Chapter VI – Sovereign Immunity

41. Sovereign Immunity	43
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**CHAPTER I
GENERAL**

1. Authority.

a. Article IV, Section 2 of the Constitution authorizes the legislative branch to make laws and appropriate funds in accordance with Article V.

b. Article V, Section 2(a) of the Constitution grants the Legislature the power to make laws, including codes, ordinances, resolutions, and statutes.

c. Article V, Section 2(g) of the Constitution grants the Legislature the power to set its own procedures, select its officers, and to enact laws governing attendance of its members, including penalties for absences.

d. Article V, Section 2(x) of the Constitution grants the Legislature the power to enact 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.

e. Article V, Section 8 of the Constitution requires that the Legislature shall hold regular monthly meetings.

f. Article V, Section 11 of the Constitution requires that a majority of the Legislature shall constitute a quorum. A quorum shall be necessary to transact official business of the Legislature. Each session of the Legislature shall require a quorum.

g. Article V, Section 12 of the Constitution requires that a majority vote of the quorum shall be necessary to exercise the powers of the Legislature, except as otherwise provided by the Constitution.

2. Purpose.

a. This Act is enacted to establish procedures and rules to govern individual and collective actions of members of the Legislature and to establish uniformity in the proceedings of Legislative business, thereby increasing the efficiency of the Legislature.

b. This Act is designed to enable the Legislature to respond quickly to items and enable the Legislature when the need arises to quickly pass Legislation or address a matter brought before the Legislature.

c. This Act provides for the continuity of the Nation's government by the Legislature in the event that Quorum for Legislative Meetings cannot be attained due to the loss or

absence of Legislators attributed to emergencies of a natural or manmade disaster.

3. Scope.

a. This Act is intended to supplement rather than supersede any and all other actions previously or subsequently taken by the Legislature with respect to its organization and procedure. Provided, however that in the case of conflict between the provisions of this Act and any other Law and Policy of the Legislature, this Act will control unless specifically amended by the Legislature.

b. The Legislature will promulgate, as necessary, separate standard operating procedures for staff operations within the Legislative Office.

c. Legislators and staff members of the Legislative Office will be subject to the Nation's employment Laws, except for the grievance process contained within this Act.

4. Definitions. Throughout this Legislation the following words have the following definitions and will be capitalized:

a. "Attorney General" means the Attorney General of the Ho-Chunk Nation.

b. "Amendment" means a change to a Code, Act, Statute, Ordinance, or Policy. An Amendment will have the full force and effect of a duly enacted law.

c. "Branch Office" means those district offices under the Division of Facilities within the Department of Administration.

d. "Confirmation Hearing" means that hearing conducted by the Legislature for the purpose of considering Background Investigation results of an Interim Director in rendering a confirmation. (See also the *Confirmation Process of Executive Directors for the Ho-Chunk Nation Act* (2 HCC § 9.))

e. "Constitution" means the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation.

f. "District Meeting" means the regular and Special Meetings of the Legislative Districts.

g. "Duly Called Meeting" means the official convening of a Quorum of Legislators for the purpose of conducting public business.

h. "Executive Department" means those Departments contained within the Executive Branch and include, pursuant to the requirements of the Constitution, the Departments of Treasury, Business, Justice, Personnel, Administration, Health and Social Services, Education, Labor, and Housing. The Department of Heritage Preservation and other Departments deemed necessary may be established by the Legislature. Except for

Departments required by the Constitution, Executive Departments established by the Legislature may be disestablished or abolished by the Legislature.

i. “Executive Session” means the portion of a Legislative Meeting where all persons will be excluded from the meeting chamber, except the President if he or she is presiding over the meeting, members of the Legislature, its officers, and any person whose presence will be required by the Legislature. If a matter personally impacts the President, a member of the Legislature, or one of its officers, that individual may voluntarily leave the meeting; or the Legislature may vote to have those affected individuals not participate in that portion of the Executive Session. The Legislature may only go into and out of Executive Session upon a duly recorded vote.

j. “Internal Review Phase” means the first of three required steps within the Normal Legislation Process for Legislation to potentially become a law. The Internal Review Phase begins when a Legislator provides a Resolution or motion requesting legislative action.

k. “Legislator” means any duly elected and sworn individual elected to represent the Ho-Chunk People pursuant to Article V, Section 1(b) of the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation.

l. “Legislature” means members of the Legislature officially convened to exercise Constitutional powers pursuant to the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation.

m. “Legislation” means a proposal made by a Legislator to create new Laws or Amendments to already existing Laws presented to the Legislature.

n. “Legislative Sponsor” unless noted in the motion or Resolution, means the Legislator who introduces a Resolution or motion to the Legislature for purposes of enacting Legislation.

o. “Normal Legislation Process” means the typical process whereby Legislation becomes a new Law or an Amendment to an existing Law. At a minimum the process to enact Legislation as the Law of the Nation will include the Internal Review Phase, the Public Review Phase, and Passage Phase. Legislation may be enacted as the Law of the Nation without going through the Normal Legislation Process by the Quick Passage process.

p. “Off-Site” means a gathering of individual Legislators assembled for the purpose of staff coordination and internal Administrative review of issues. This is not a law-making meeting and therefore not a Public meeting subject to the Nation’s *Open Meetings Act* (2 HCC § 2). Off-Sites will be conducted as required for internal Legislative business, functions, and staff coordination. These will usually be conducted away from the Nation’s Executive Offices to provide the necessary environment devoid of office distractions and the regular Public business of the Legislators.

- q. “President” means the President or President pro tempore of the Ho-Chunk Nation.
- r. “Proposal for Legislation” means a letter or other document submitted to a Legislator that outlines the need for a particular law. The need may be provided verbally to a Legislator(s).
- s. “Public” means the enrolled members of the Ho-Chunk Nation.
- t. “Public Hearing” means a meeting held by the Legislature in accordance with the Nation’s *Open Meetings Act* (2 HCC § 2) and this Act, to solicit comments from the Public on Legislation or other action or concern.
- u. “Public Review Phase” means the second of three possible phases within the Normal Legislation Process for a Proposal for Legislation to potentially become a Law.
- v. “Quick Passage” means a process to amend or enact a law of the Nation whereby the Legislature determines that the steps required under the Normal Legislation Process would unduly harm a person, multiple persons, or the Nation and the Legislature determines that immediate action is needed to modify the Nation’s law.
- w. “Quorum” means the number of members of Legislature required to be present to transact business legally. Unless specifically enumerated within this Act, the number of Members to constitute a Quorum will be a majority of Members of the Legislature or Legislators on that particular Standing Legislative Committee.
- x. “Regular Monthly Meeting” means any meeting of the Legislature, which is held on a regular schedule as required by Article V, Section 8 of the Constitution.
- y. “Resolution” means a formal expression of opinion of the Legislature on matters of temporary interest.
- z. “Responsible Legislative Attorney” means the Legislative Attorney or Counsel assigned to research, edit, and shepherd Legislation through the Legislative Process.
- aa. “Restate” means to amend a Code, Act, Statute, Ordinance, or Policy by completely rewriting and replacing it.
- bb. “Review Periods” means the periods of time during the Normal Legislative Process that Legislation is available for review and comment:
- (1) Public Review. That period of time, typically forty-five (45) days, that Legislation is available for review and comment by the Tribal membership and any other interested Ho-Chunk Nation governmental entities. After a vote of a Committee the Legislation will be placed on the Ho-Chunk Nation Website. Any member of the Public

may request to have a copy of the Legislation sent to them via regular mail. The Public Review is one possible part of the Public Review Phase within the Normal Legislation Process.

(2) Final Review. Unless waived by the Committee, that period of time, a minimum of seven (7) business days, that Final Draft Legislation is available for Legislators to review and comment prior to submission to the full Legislature.

cc. "Secretary" or "Legislative Secretary" means the Secretary of the Legislature.

dd. "Special Meeting" means any meeting of the Legislature which is not a regular meeting, including but not limited to any meeting which must be called because of an emergency. Pursuant to Article V, Section 8, the Legislature may hold Special Meetings as necessary.

ee. "Standing Legislative Committee" or "Committee" means those Committees listed in paragraph 12a and any other Committee created by the Legislature to assist it in exercising its powers, including Legislative oversight.

ff. "Supreme Court" means the Ho-Chunk Nation Supreme Court.

gg. "Trial Court" means the Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court.

hh. "Tribal Secretary" means a Legislator selected by the Legislature to serve in this capacity throughout his or her term in office and with the duties outlined in Section Seven (7) of this Act.

ii. "Vice President" means the Vice President or Vice President pro tempore of the Ho-Chunk Nation.

CHAPTER II

LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES

5. Appointment of the Vice President. The Legislature will select from among its members a Vice President to serve throughout such Legislator's term. Such selection will occur as early as possible after the Vice Presidency becomes vacant for any reason.

6. Duties of the Vice President.

a. The Vice President will preside over meetings of the Legislature in the absence of the President and at such times the Vice President will retain the power to vote.

b. The Vice President will act as the Executive Administrative Officer within the Legislative Office. In this capacity he or she will exercise the following authorities with regard to Legislators and the Legislative Staff: signature authority for sick, annual, and

Waksik Wosga leave applications, time sheets, and other routine and standard personnel Administrative functions.

c. If the Legislature votes for the Vice President to take action and he or she believes that performing the action may be or may be seen to be a violation of the *Ho-Chunk Nation Code of Ethics Act* (2 HCC § 1), the Vice President may designate another Legislator to perform that function. The Vice President may also authorize another Legislator to temporarily act as the Administrative Officer when the Vice President is away from the office for any reason.

d. The Vice President will exercise supervisory authority over Legislative Counsel(s)/Attorney(s), Legislative Secretary(ies), Legislative Auditor(s), Legislative Assistant(s), Legislative Policy Analyst(s), and other staff as deemed necessary.

e. In the event the Legislature or a Legislator in his or her official capacity as a Legislator is a party to a lawsuit, the Legislative Counsel(s)/Attorney(s) will be served with all legal documents related to the case. If the Legislature does not have a Legislative Counsel/Attorney, the Vice President will be served with all legal documents related to the case, unless the Vice President designates outside counsel to be served. If the Vice President or Legislature designates outside counsel to represent the Legislature, the outside counsel will immediately inform the Court of his or her representation of the Legislature. The Vice President will call a Special Meeting of the Legislature to respond to or file any legal documents with the Court:

(1) In the event the Legislature or a Legislator in his or her capacity as a Legislator is a party to a lawsuit; and

(2) It is deemed necessary by a Legislative Counsel/Attorney or outside counsel.

f. The Vice President will receive and respond to Legislative Office employee grievances. The Vice President will seek to resolve such grievances. If the grievance is not resolved, the matter will be referred to the full Legislature for consideration, subject to review by the Trial Court. The Court may only overturn a decision if it determines the decision was arbitrary and capricious.

g. In the absence of the Vice President, the President may designate a Legislator to temporarily conduct a meeting when the President must leave the meeting temporarily. Such designated Legislator will not call a meeting to order or adjourn such meeting. No votes will take place during the temporary absence of the President.

7. Appointment and Duties of the Tribal Secretary.

a. The Legislature will select from among its members a Tribal Secretary to serve throughout such Legislator's term. Such selection will occur as early as possible after the Tribal Secretary position becomes vacant for any reason.

b. The Tribal Secretary shall be responsible for signing Legislative Meeting Minutes, signing Resolutions, and other duties as may be assigned by the Legislature through a Resolution.

8. Duties of the Secretary of the Legislature or Committee(s). The Legislative Secretary will perform the following duties:

a. Record the minutes of each Legislative and Committee Meeting, which will include:

(1) Roll Call.

(2) The presence, absence, and departures of every member of the Legislature and whether absences were excused or unexcused.

(3) Announcing the establishment of quorum.

(4) Any votes taken, and the votes of each Legislator.

b. Maintain a record of all minutes, Legislation, Laws, Ordinances, Resolutions, and Statutes.

c. Maintain the Legislative Calendar on Legislative Meetings and Committee Meetings.

d. Prepare, coordinate, and distribute the agenda for Legislative and Committee Meetings.

9. Duties of the Members of the Legislature.

a. Constitution and Laws. Legislators will abide by the Ho-Chunk Nation Constitution and all other Laws.

b. District Meetings.

(1) Legislators will hold and attend regularly scheduled meetings in their respective Districts at least once a month except when the Legislator must meet on the business of the Nation. Failure to attend such District Meetings on a regular basis may constitute grounds for removal or recall.

(2) The Legislature will not schedule a Special Meeting at the same time as a regularly scheduled District Meeting.

(3) The Legislator(s) will select the District Meeting site, day, and time in

consultation with their District constituents and will preside over District Meetings unless the Legislator(s) and District constituents have approved other person(s) to preside over such meetings.

(4) Except for as provided in Section 9, subparagraph b. (6), district constituents, in consultation with their Legislators, may adopt by-laws to govern any or all of the following matters:

- (a) Who may attend a District Meeting;
- (b) Who may sign in at a District Meeting;
- (c) Who may be eligible for any item given away at a District Meeting;
- (c) Procedures for conducting a District Meeting; or

(d) Any other matter that the District Constituents determine they wish to regulate in the by-laws to govern their respective District Meeting.

(5) If by-laws are developed, the Legislative office shall keep a copy of the by-laws available to be viewed by any Tribal Member or legislative staff.

(6) The following rules shall also control District Meetings:

(a) A Legislative Secretary, Legislative Assistant, or similar Legislative Staff who is recording the meeting minutes of a District Meeting and performing his or her Legislative duties shall not sign in or collect money at any District Meeting;

(b) Branch office coordinators who are recording the meeting minutes of a District Meeting and working for the Nation shall not sign in or collect money at any District Meeting;

(c) If sensitive financial information or similar sensitive issues are being discussed, the District Constituents may vote to exclude any individual who is not a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation;

(d) A District Constituent must be a resident in a District for at least three (3) months to be eligible to sign in and collect money at a District Meeting. For purposes of the preceding sentence be a “resident” means that the District Constituent has had a permanent physical address (not a P.O. Box) in the District as stated on the periodic Address Verification Forms provided by the Nation’s Office of Tribal Enrollment with respect to per capita distributions; and

(e) Under the following circumstances, money provided to District Constituents at District Meetings shall be returned to the general fund of the Nation:

1 If a District does not hold its District Meeting in any given calendar month (i.e. the month of May); and

2 The Legislature allocated money to be given to District Constituents for attending their respective District Meetings.

c. Standing Legislative Committee Meetings. See paragraph 12a for the Standing Legislative Committees.

d. Boards and Other Governmental or Business Bodies. Legislators will not be appointed by the Legislature to Ho-Chunk Nation governmental or business boards or commissions, with the exception of Limited Liability Companies, either as a member of the board/commission. This restriction does not include appointed Legislators to non-Ho-Chunk boards and commissions or the participation of a Legislator in a Ho-Chunk government task force(s) as an ex officio member when appointed by the Legislature.

10. Rules of the Legislature.

a. The proceedings of the Legislature will be conducted in accordance with rules specified in the following sources expressed in the order of their priority:

- (1) The Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation.
- (2) *The Legislative Organization Act* (2 HCC § 11).
- (3) *Open Meetings Act* (2 HCC § 2).
- (4) Other acts, Statutes and other Legislative enactments.
- (5) Standard Operating Procedures of the Legislature.
- (6) Written procedural regulation adopted by the Legislature from time to time.
- (7) Procedures generally recognized by the members of the Legislature as in accordance with Legislative practice since the enactment of the present Constitution, and affirmed by a majority of the Legislators voting at a Duly Called Meeting.

b. Legislative Meeting Location.

(1) The Legislature will designate the location of the next Legislative Meeting by motion prior to adjournment. Ratification of that motion is not required.

(2) Only in the case of an emergency and where there is less than forty-eight (48) hours notice, the Vice President or her/his designee in consultation with a majority of the Legislators may change the specified location of a Legislative Meeting. Each Legislator

and the Office of the President will be notified electronically and by either telephone or in person and such notice posted in accordance with the Nation's *Open Meetings Act* (2 HCC § 2). The Vice President will inform the Legislative Secretaries who will ensure that all Legislators are properly notified.

c. Legislative and Committee Agendas.

(1) Legislative Meetings.

(a) All requests for agenda items submitted by the Judicial Branch or Executive Branch (and its Departments and Divisions) are to be received by the Legislative Secretary no later than noon on the Thursday preceding the Legislative Meeting scheduled for the following week.

(b) All Executive Branch/Judicial Branch agenda item submittals will:

1 Have the approval of the Office of the President/Chief Trial Judge attached.

2 Include supporting documents and the name(s)/title(s) of the individual(s) attending and presenting the matter.

3 Be submitted with paper copies to the Legislative Secretary. The number of copies provided will be the number requested by the Legislative Secretary.

4 Be submitted electronically to the Legislative Secretary, unless technologically not feasible. The electronic submission will include all supporting documents.

(c) Legislator requests for the submission of additional documents or the presence of additional people to appear at the meetings will be delivered to the Office of the President or to the Chief Trial Court Judge as soon as possible but no later than by 4:30 p.m. on the day before the Legislative Session.

(d) By 9:00 a.m. on the Friday before the scheduled Legislative Meeting, the agenda will be finalized and the Legislative Secretary shall electronically provide a copy of the agenda to all Legislators and Legislative Staff.

(e) By noon on Monday of the week of the scheduled Legislative Meeting, the agenda and packet providing the supporting documents will be available to the Office of the President, the Legislators, and Legislative Staff.

(2) Committee Meetings.

(a) All requests for agenda items submitted by the Judicial Branch or

Executive Branch (and its Departments and Divisions) are to be received by the responsible Legislative Secretary/Auditor no later than noon on the Friday preceding the Committee Meeting scheduled for the following week.

(b) All Executive Branch/Judicial Branch agenda item submittals will:

1 Have the approval of the Office of the President/Chief Trial Judge attached.

2 Include supporting documents and the name(s)/title(s) of the individual(s) attending and presenting the matter.

3 Be submitted with paper copies to the Legislative Secretary/Auditor. The number of copies provided will be the number requested by the Legislative Secretary/Auditor.

4 Be submitted electronically to the Legislative Secretary/Auditor, unless technologically not feasible. The electronic submission will include all supporting documents.

(c) Requests of the Presiding Officer or Committee member(s) for the submission of additional documents or the presence of additional people to appear at the meetings will be delivered to the Office of the President or to the Chief Trial Court Judge as soon as possible but no later than by 4:30 p.m. on the day before the Committee Session.

(d) By 10:00 a.m. on the Monday before the scheduled Committee Meeting, the Legislative Secretary/Auditor will finalize the agenda for the Committee Meeting. The Responsible Legislative Secretary/Auditor shall electronically provide a copy of the agenda to all Legislators and Legislative Staff.

(e) By noon on Monday of the week of the scheduled Committee Meeting, the agenda and packet providing the supporting documents will be available to the Office of the President, Legislators, and Legislative Staff.

(3) The Vice President and Committee Presiding Officers will ensure the following confidential matters are placed in Executive Session on the agenda in accordance with Section 6 of the *Open Meeting Act* (2 HCC § 2): certain business matters; criminal matters; intergovernmental relations; certain land issues; law enforcement; legal advice; personnel matters; and public safety or well-being.

d. Governmental and Business Conferences and Meetings. The Legislature and all Legislative Staff will be notified of the attendance of a Legislator(s) at conferences and meetings outside of the Executive Offices by placing such meeting or conference on the Legislative Calendar a minimum of four (4) working days prior to the meeting or

conference. A Legislator scheduling a meeting or conference or who is notified of a meeting or conference that is to be attended with less than four (4) days notice will notify, or cause to be notified through the Legislative Assistant, all other Legislators electronically and by either telephone or in person.

e. Privileged Communications. Privileged communications between Legislative Counsel or Attorneys and the Legislature or individual Legislators will be protected and not disclosed outside of the Legislative Office. Written privileged documents prepared by an Attorney will be clearly marked as such. Non-disclosure of privileged communications applies to Legislators and all Legislative staff releasing such documents to constituents and other individuals outside of the Legislative personnel. Without prior approval of the Vice President, in consultation with the Legislative Counsel/Attorney, any document labeled as confidential by the Legislative Attorney or Counsel will not be disclosed in Open Meetings as part of the Legislative agenda, or to anyone outside of the Legislative Office. Prohibited disclosure of privileged communications may constitute a serious violation of the Nation's *Code of Ethics Act* (2 HCC § 1).

f. Board, Advisory Board, Committee, Work Group, or Task Force.

(1) Vacancies on a board or committee.

(a) Unless another law provides for a different method of posting a vacancy, all vacancies on a board or committee may be posted in the following manners:

1 The Legislative Section of the Nation's Website;

2 The Ho-Chunk Nation Job Posting List, but the filling of the vacancy shall not be subject to the requirements contained in Section 8 of the *Employment Relations Act* (6 HCC § 5); or

3 Through a different method, if the Legislature motions for a different method to be used to post the vacancy.

(b) If the requirements of Section 10, subparagraph f. (1) (c) are satisfied, the Legislature shall not have to post a vacancy pursuant to the requirements of Section 10, subparagraph f. (1) (a) prior to filling the vacancy.

(c) District Legislators will consult with Tribal Members and recommend Member appointments to the full Legislature for approval.

(d) The Legislative Secretary shall provide notification of the appointment to:

1 The person approved for appointment on the board or committee;

2 The Office of the President; and

3 The chairperson or head of the board or committee, if there is a chairperson or head of the board or committee.

(2) A Board, Advisory Board, Committee, Work Group, or Task Force shall provide the Legislature with any information necessary for the Legislature to accomplish its oversight of these various Public Bodies. For purposes of the preceding sentence public bodies shall mean any official entity in which a quorum is required to conduct public business and which performs a governmental function for the Nation.

(3) The Legislative Paralegal shall maintain a record of all terms of all members of all public bodies. For purposes of the preceding sentence public bodies shall mean any official entity in which a quorum is required to conduct public business and which performs a governmental function for the Nation.

11. Procedures of Legislative Meetings.

a. Pursuant to Article V, Section 11 of the Constitution, each session of the Legislature will require a Quorum. A Quorum will be necessary to transact official business of the Legislature:

(1) Quorum.

(a) Quorum will be either seven (7) of the thirteen (13) Legislators and the President (total of eight) or, in the absence of the President, seven (7) Legislators, to include the Vice President (total of seven). Unless the Nation obtains technology to enable a Legislator to telecommute, the Legislators must be physically present to constitute a quorum for Regular or Special Meetings. For purposes of the preceding sentence, a Legislator will need to be physically present until the Legislature passes a Resolution authorizing a Legislator to telecommute for purposes of obtaining quorum. In the event that less than thirteen (13) Legislators are seated (elected and sworn in) a majority of seated Legislators are required for Quorum.

(b) Quorum must be established within thirty (30) minutes of the initial Roll Call. When the Presiding Officer calls for Roll Call and there are not enough Legislators present to constitute a Quorum the Legislators who are present will have the following options:

1 If the Legislators determine that Quorum will likely be established in thirty (30) minutes, the Legislators will wait an additional thirty (30) minutes. If enough Legislators are present to establish Quorum before the thirty (30) minutes are up, the Presiding Officer may call for the Roll Call.

2 If the Legislators determine that Quorum will likely not be established

in thirty (30) minutes, the Legislators will be able to immediately determine whether to wait an additional thirty (30) minutes, reschedule the start time to later that day, or postpone the meeting to another day.

3 If the Legislators present determine to wait an additional thirty (30) minutes pursuant to section 1 and 2 above and Quorum is not reached within thirty (30) minutes of Roll Call, the Legislators present will determine whether to wait an additional thirty (30) minutes, reschedule the start time to later that day, or to postpone the meeting to another day.

b. Authority to Preside over Meetings of the Legislature.

(1) Pursuant to Article V, Section 1, subsection (c) of the Constitution, the President will preside over meetings of the Legislature. The President may elect to not preside over a portion of a meeting if his or her presiding over the portion of the meeting could be seen to be a violation of the Ho-Chunk Nation *Code of Ethics Act* (2 HCC § 1).

(2) The Vice President will preside over meetings of the Legislature in the absence of the President and at such times the Vice President will retain the power to vote.

(3) If the Vice President is unavailable for any reason to preside over a portion of a meeting, the President is exempt from having his or her presiding over a portion of a meeting being considered a violation of the Ho-Chunk Nation *Code of Ethics Act* (2 HCC § 1). If a vote is taken on a subject matter, in the following circumstances the Legislature will vote on the matter at the next Legislative session:

(a) The vote results in a tie vote; and

(b) The President believes that his or her voting in order to break the tie would be or would be seen as a violation of the Ho-Chunk Nation *Code of Ethics Act* (2 HCC § 1).

(4) Inability of Vice President to Preside over a Meeting:

(a) The Vice President may elect to not preside over a portion of a meeting in the following circumstances:

1 The President is unavailable for any reason to preside over the meeting; and

2 The Vice President's presiding over that portion of the meeting may appear or would result in an ethical violation of the Ho-Chunk Nation *Code of Ethics Act* (2 HCC § 1).

(b) If the Vice President elects to not preside over a portion of the meeting, the subject matter of that portion of the meeting will be addressed at the next Legislative session.

c. Pursuant to Article V, Sections 9 and 10 of the Constitution, all meetings of the Legislature will be open to all members of the Nation, except when in Executive Session. The Legislature may at any time, upon a duly recorded vote, go in and out of Executive Session:

(1) During the Executive Session portion of the meeting, all persons will be excluded from the meeting chamber, except the President if he or she is presiding over the meeting, members of the Legislature, its officers and any person whose presence is required by the Legislature.

(2) If a matter personally impacts a member of the Legislature or one of its officers:

(a) The Legislator or Legislative's officer may voluntarily leave the room; or

(b) The Legislature may vote to have that member or Legislature's officer not participate in that portion of the Executive Session.

d. Order of Business. Legislative Meetings will follow the proceeding order of business:

(1) Call to Order. (At the time the meeting is to begin as stated on the agenda.)

(2) Roll Call.

(3) Determination of Quorum.

(4) Opening Prayer.

(5) Approval of Agenda.

(6) Approval of Legislative (or Committee) Minutes.

(7) Committee Reports and Approval.

(8) Reports.

(9) Unfinished Business.

(10) New Business.

(11) Executive Session. (The Legislature may vote to go into Executive Session at anytime.)

(12) Adjournment.

e. Executive Session.

(1) Except for as provided for in Section 36c, any minutes from the Executive Session portion of a meeting will be kept strictly confidential:

(a) The Legislative Secretary will provide the original of these minutes to the Department of Records and keep a copy for the Legislative Secretary's records.

(b) The copy of the minutes will only be available to the Legislative Secretary or his or her successor and the minutes may only be shown to Legislative Officials.

(c) The Legislative Secretary will only show the minutes to individuals not employed by the Legislature if the Vice President authorizes the disclosure.

(2) Except for as provided for in Section 36c, the original and copy of the minutes from the Executive Session portion of the meeting will remain the Property of the Ho-Chunk Nation.

(3) Any recordings of the Executive Session portion of a meeting will remain the Property of the Ho-Chunk Nation and will not be erased. When the Official who made the recording is done with the recording it will be stored with the Department of Records:

(a) The Department of Records will classify these recordings based on the date of the Legislative Session.

(b) Except for as provided for in Section 36c, the Department of Records will ensure that only the Official who made the recording or his or her successor will have access to the recordings.

(4) Except for as provided for in Section 36c and except for purposes directly connected with work related to the Ho-Chunk Nation, no person may publish, use, permit, cause to be published, disclose or use any information learned while in attendance of the Executive Session of the Legislative Meeting.

(5) The Legislative Secretary or any other Official of the Nation taking notes during the Executive Session portion of the meeting will be required to sign a restrictive covenant:

(a) This restrictive covenant will be drafted by the Nation's Department of Justice.

(b) The restrictive covenant will contractually require that the employee not use or disclose trade secrets, written lists of names, or other similar confidential matters learned while the Legislature is in Executive Session to third persons, other governments, corporations, or third parties. The restrictive covenant will also include that this duty will be maintained by the employee upon the employee becoming a former employee of the Nation.

(c) The restrictive covenant will not restrict the employee from using information that was obtained through general skill, knowledge and experience.

f. Ratification of Legislative Action:

(1) Action taken by the Legislature by Resolution or during Executive Session at a meeting is immediately effective and does not require subsequent ratification of the meeting minutes.

(2) Action taken by the Legislature by Motion at a meeting is only effective upon subsequent ratification of the meeting minutes unless:

(a) A specific exception is made within this law or another law; or

(b) The Legislator making the Motion calls for emergency action to be taken on the Motion and two-thirds of Legislators who vote support the Motion. For purposes of the preceding sentence “emergency action” is defined as a situation that demands unusual or immediate action and that justifies the Legislature circumventing the usual ratification procedures.

g. Ratification of District Meeting Minutes. Request for action taken at a District Meeting or when requested by constituents who do not attend a District Meeting shall only be effective upon ratification by the full Legislature and pursuant to the Standard Operating Procedures of the Legislature.

CHAPTER III STANDING LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES

12. Establishment and Composition of Standing Legislative Committees.

a. Standing Legislative Committees. The Standing Legislative Committees of the Legislature shall be the Administration, Finance, and Development Committees. Each will have the jurisdiction and related functions assigned to it by this section and applicable law. If this section or applicable law does not determine the jurisdiction of a matter, the Vice President or Legislature shall determine the appropriate Standing Legislative Committee to refer the matter.

b. Composition.

(1) The Finance Committee will consist of all Legislators as members.

(2) The Administration and Development Committees will consist of a Presiding Officer, a Second Presiding Officer, and five (5) members, one (1) member from each Legislative District. The Presiding Officer and Second Presiding Officer may not make motions and the Presiding Officer only votes in the event of a tie vote of the members.

13. Quorum.

a. Required number of Members:

(1) For the Finance Committee a majority of Committee Members are required to be present to constitute a quorum (7 of 13 members). In the event that less than thirteen (13) Legislators are seated (elected and sworn in) a majority of seated Legislators are required for Quorum.

(2) For the Administration and Development Committees a majority of Committee Members are required to be present to constitute a Quorum (3 of 5 members).

(3) Unless the Nation obtains technology to enable a Legislator to telecommute, the Committee Member must be physically present to count towards the quorum requirement for Committee Meetings. For purposes of the preceding sentence, a Committee Member will need to be physically present until the Legislature passes a Resolution authorizing Committee Members to telecommute for purposes of obtaining quorum.

b. Time frame for establishment of Quorum:

(1) Quorum must be established within thirty (30) minutes of the initial Roll Call. In the event the Presiding Officer calls for Roll Call and there are not enough Legislators to establish Quorum, the Legislators who are present will have the following options:

(2) If the Legislators determine that Quorum will likely be established in thirty (30) minutes, the present Legislators will wait an additional thirty (30) minutes:

(a) If enough Legislators are present to establish Quorum before the thirty (30) minutes are up, the Presiding Officer may immediately call for the Roll Call.

(b) If Quorum is not reached within thirty (30) minutes of Roll Call, the Legislators present will:

1 Reschedule the start time to later that day, or

2 Postpone the meeting to another day.

(c) If the Legislators determine that Quorum will likely not be established in thirty (30) minutes, the Legislators will:

1 Reschedule the start time to later that day, or

2 Postpone the meeting to another day.

14. Selection of Presiding and Second Presiding Officer. The Legislature will select a Presiding Officer and a Second Presiding Officer for each Standing Legislative Committee:

a. Selection Period. A Legislator will be selected to serve in this capacity beginning after all members are sworn in after a General Election.

b. Length of Service. Presiding Officers and Second Presiding Officers shall serve in this capacity:

(1) Beginning on August 1, 2008 for a term of two (2) years or until such time as a new member has been selected to serve as Presiding Officer or Second Presiding Officer; or

(2) Until there is a unanimous vote of the remaining Committee Members to remove the Presiding Officer or Second Presiding Officer.

c. Eligibility Requirement. A Legislator must have been on the Legislature for at least one (1) year before being eligible to be selected as a Presiding Officer or Second Presiding Officer.

d. Selection of Another Presiding Officer. The Legislature shall select another member to serve in the capacity as Presiding Officer and Second Presiding Officer at the Legislative Session before the end of the term of the current officers or whenever there is a permanent vacancy. If a Legislator is selected to fill a permanent vacancy, the selected Legislator shall only serve out the remainder of the term.

15. Absence of Presiding Officer, Second Presiding Officer, or Member.

a. Absence of Presiding or Second Presiding Officer.

(1) In the temporary absence of the Presiding Officer, the Second Presiding Officer of the Committee will act as the Presiding Officer.

(a) In the temporary absence of the Presiding Officer and Second Presiding

Officer of the Development and Administration Committee, a member of the Legislature not serving on the Committee may serve in the role of Presiding Officer.

(b) In the temporary absence of the Presiding Officer and Second Presiding Officer of the Finance Committee, another Legislator who represents a District with multiple Legislators may serve in the role of the Presiding Officer.

(2) In the case of a permanent absence of the Legislator serving as Presiding Officer or Second Presiding Officer, the Legislature shall elect another Presiding Officer or Second Presiding Officer.

b. Absence of Member on Administration and Development Committee.

(1) In the temporary absence of a member of the Administration or Development Committee, a Legislator who is not serving on either the Administration or Development Committee may serve in the place of the member who is temporarily absent.

(2) If a previously selected member of the Administration or Development Committee is unable to serve for any reason, that member shall be replaced by a temporary member. The selection of the temporary member shall be done according to the following rules:

(a) If the previously selected member who is unable to serve is from District I, II, III, or V, the temporary member will come from that same District.

(b) If the previously selected member who is unable to serve is from District IV, the temporary member will be selected from any of the remaining Legislators not serving on that Committee. No District may have more than two (2) Legislators serving as members on a Committee.

(c) If a Special Election results in the filling of a vacant Legislative seat, the individual elected as a result of the Special Election will be immediately appointed to the Committee and the temporary member will no longer serve on the Committee.

(d) If the member who was unable to serve becomes able to serve on the Committee, that member will immediately serve on the Committee and the temporary member will no longer serve on the Committee.

16. Jurisdiction.

a. Jurisdiction for the Standing Legislative Committees shall be as listed below:

(1) Administration Committee:

(a) Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation

- (b) Establishment Acts for:
 - 1 Judiciary
 - 2 Department of Administration
 - 3 Department of Education
 - 4 Department of Health and Social Services
 - 5 Department of Heritage Preservation
 - 6 Department of Housing
 - 7 Department of Justice
 - 8 Department of Labor
 - 9 Department of Personnel
 - 10 General Council Planning Committee
 - 11 Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency
- (c) Code of Ethics Act
- (d) Open Meetings Act
- (e) Discovery Act
- (f) Contempt Ordinance
- (g) Election Ordinance
- (h) Tribal Enrollment and Membership Act
- (i) Confirmation Process of Executive Directors
- (j) Legislative Organization Act
- (k) Recall Petition and Recall Meeting Procedures
- (l) Public Nuisance Act
- (m) Tribal Research Code
- (n) Environmental and Public Health Ordinance
- (o) Elder Protection Act
- (p) Hocak Nation Children and Family Code
- (q) Juvenile Curfew Ordinance
- (r) Domestic Abuse Act
- (s) Workers' Compensation Plan
- (t) Insurance Review Commission
- (u) Computer Usage Act
- (v) Employment Relations Act
- (w) Occupational Safety and Health Program Act
- (x) Criminal Code
- (y) Probate Code
- (z) Divorce and Custody Code
- (aa) Marriage Ordinance
- (bb) Employee Classification and Compensation Plan

(2) Development Committee:

- (a) Establishment Act for Department of Business
- (b) Zoning and Land Use Ordinance
- (c) Environmental Policy

- (d) Utilities Ordinance
- (e) Wazee Area Wastewater Commission
- (f) Business Corporation Ordinance
- (g) Limited Liability Company Act
- (h) Fleet Policies and Procedures Act
- (i) Solid Waste and Recycling Ordinance
- (j) Eviction Ordinance
- (k) Home Ownership and Benefit Housing Programs
- (l) Residential Landlord and Tenant Code
- (m) Law Enforcement
- (n) Uniform Commercial Code
- (o) Fireworks Ordinance
- (p) Domesticated Animal Control Ordinance
- (q) Burial and Repatriation Law
- (r) Hunting Policy
- (s) Cultural Heritage Resource Code
- (t) Alcohol Beverage Control Ordinance
- (u) Establishment Act for Administrative Law Commissioner
- (v) Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance
- (w) Redistricting

(3) Finance Committee:

- (a) Establishment Act for Department of Treasury
- (b) Appropriations and Budget Process Act
- (c) Finance Manual
- (d) Class II Gaming Operations Internal Control Manual
- (e) Class III Gaming Operations Internal Control Manual
- (f) Bonding Ordinance
- (g) Claims Against Per Capita Ordinance
- (h) Per Capita Distribution Ordinance
- (i) Child Support Enforcement Code
- (j) Recognition of Foreign Child Support Orders Ordinance
- (k) Charitable Request Act
- (l) Minor and Legally Incompetent Protective Fund Ordinance
- (m) Property and Procurement Manual
- (n) Gaming Ordinance
- (o) Ho-Chunk Nation/State of Wisconsin Gaming Compact
- (p) Tribal Claims Act of 2006
- (q) Tax Code

b. The Vice President shall determine all controversies arising as to the jurisdiction of any Standing Legislative Committee. A majority vote of the Legislature may overrule the Vice President's decision.

c. Nothing in this section will prohibit one or more Committees from possessing joint jurisdiction as directed by the Vice President or a majority vote of the Legislature.

17. General Oversight Responsibilities. Standing Legislative Committees will perform the following functions:

a. Assist the Legislature in its analysis, appraisal, and evaluation of the application, administration, and execution of the Laws enacted by the Legislature.

b. Assist the Legislature in its formulation, consideration, and enactment of such modification of or changes in those Laws, the repeal of Laws (to include establishment acts), and of such additional Legislation, as may be necessary or appropriate.

c. Review and study, on a continuing basis:

(1) The application, administration, execution, and effectiveness of those Laws, or parts of Laws, within the jurisdiction of that Committee.

(2) The organization and operation of the Executive Departments and entities that administer and execute the laws within the jurisdiction of the Committee.

(3) The conditions or circumstances, which may indicate the need to enact new or additional Legislation for a subject matter within the jurisdiction of the Committee.

d. Determine whether the Laws and the programs under its jurisdiction are being implemented and carried out in accordance with the intent of the Legislature and whether such programs should be continued, curtailed, or eliminated.

18. Election and Membership of Legislators onto Standing Committees.

Membership in the Standing Committees specified in paragraph 12a will be selected by the Legislature from nominations submitted by Legislators within ten (10) calendar days after all members of the Legislature have been sworn into office during an election year.

19. Duties of Standing Committee Presiding Officer.

a. Each Committee Presiding Officer will call Committee Meetings in accordance with Section 20c and 20d of this Act and will preside over meetings of the Committee.

b. The Presiding Officer will exercise those duties relating to investigative powers of Committees as specified in Section 21 of this Act; those duties relating to subpoena power of Committees in Section 24 of this Act; and other duties and responsibilities informally used by Presiding Officers before passage of this Act, which are not inconsistent with this Act.

c. The Committee Presiding Officer will supervise the execution of all action taken in

the Committee.

20. Rules of Procedure for Standing Committees.

a. Each Committee will conduct its proceedings in accordance with such rules as it will determine consistent with the requirements of the Constitution and Laws of the Ho-Chunk Nation, including this Act. In the absence of any specifically adopted Committee rule on any matter, the Legislative rules then in use pursuant to Section 10 will apply.

b. Each Committee is authorized to conduct such investigations and studies as it may determine necessary or appropriate in the exercise of its responsibilities under Section 16 and to incur expenses (including travel expenses) in connection therewith, in accordance with such budgets and policies as the full Legislature may determine from time to time.

c. Regular Meeting Days.

(1) Each Standing Committee of the Legislature will adopt regular meeting days. Such meetings of the Standing Committees will be approved by the Legislature and will be open to Tribal Members in accordance with the Nation's *Open Meetings Act* (2 HCC § 2).

(2) Each Standing Committee will meet at least every thirty (30) calendar days to conduct oversight responsibilities.

d. Additional and Special Meetings. The Presiding Officer of each Standing Committee may call and convene, as he or she considers necessary, additional meetings of the Committee for the consideration of any Legislation or Resolution pending before the Committee or for the conduct of other Committee business. The Committee will meet for such purpose pursuant to that call of the Presiding Officer.

e. Order of Business. Committee Meetings will follow the proceeding order of business:

- (1) Call to Order. (At the time the meeting is to begin as stated on the agenda.)
- (2) Roll Call.
- (3) Determination of Quorum.
- (4) Opening Prayer.
- (5) Approval of Agenda.
- (6) Unless already approved by the full Legislature, Approval of Committee Minutes.
- (7) Reports.
- (8) Unfinished Business.
- (9) New Business.
- (10) Executive Session. (The Committee may vote to go into Executive Session at any time.)

(11) Adjournment.

f. Committee Records.

(1) Each Committee will keep a complete record of all Committee action, which will include a record of all votes on each Committee action. Such record will be embodied in the Committee Meeting Minutes.

(2) The Committee will make the result of each such vote available for inspection by the Public at reasonable times in the Legislative Office. Information so available for Public inspection will include a description of the Amendment, Motion, Order, or other proposition and the name of each member voting for, against and obtaining such Amendment, Motion, Order, or proposition, and the names of those members present but not voting.

(3) All Committee hearings, minutes, records, data, charts, and files will be kept separate and distinct from the Legislative Office records of the member serving as Presiding Officer of the Committee. Such records will be the property of the Legislature and all members will have access to such records.

(4) Committee recommendations to the Legislature may be embodied in Committee Meeting Minutes.

(5) Executive Session.

(a) When a Committee elects to go into Executive Session, the minutes of that portion of the meeting shall be confidential.

(b) The Legislative Secretary shall only distribute the Executive Session meeting minutes at the next Legislative session.

(c) A Committee may not take official action when it is in Executive Session. Instead, the Committee may go into Executive Session to discuss matters deemed confidential, but may not vote to take action during the Executive Session portion of the meeting. Unless the Committee informally decides otherwise, the matter shall be referred to the Legislature for a vote in Executive Session.

(d) The Executive Session portion of the minutes shall only become available to members of the Nation as provided for in Section 36, but prior to going into Executive Session the Legislative Secretary shall provide within the Committee Meeting Minutes a reason for the Committee to go into Executive Session.

21. Hearings and Investigative Hearings of the Standing Committees.

a. The Legislature and its Committees are empowered to conduct hearings on matters

of importance to the Nation for the purpose of obtaining information and rendering recommendations or decisions.

b. Confirmation Hearings will be conducted pursuant to the *Confirmation Process of Executive Directors for the Ho-Chunk Nation Act* (2 HCC § 9) and will follow Legislative procedures.

c. For the purpose of carrying out any of its functions and duties under Section 17d, any Committee is authorized to conduct Investigative Hearings in accordance with this section and Sections 19 and 20.

d. All hearings of the Standing Committees will be open to the Tribal Members, and to non-members upon invitation of the Standing Committee, except in certain instances as specified in the Nation's *Open Meetings Act* (2 HCC § 2).

22. Quorum for Taking Testimony. Each Standing Committee must have a Quorum for taking testimony and receiving evidence when the Committee is conducting a hearing upon any measure or matter in relation to the oversight functions as specified in Section 13b.

23. Investigative Hearing Procedures.

a. The Presiding Officer, at an investigative hearing, will announce in an opening statement the subject of the investigation.

b. A copy of Committee rules and this section will be made available to each witness.

c. Witnesses requested to appear at an investigative hearing will receive notice of the Committee's request to appear before the Committee at least four (4) days in advance of the hearing. A witness may be accompanied by their own counsel at their own expense for the purpose of advising them concerning their Constitutional rights.

d. The Presiding Officer may punish breaches of order and decorum, and of professional ethics on the part of counsel, by censure and exclusion from the hearings.

e. Degrading Evidence. If by a majority of those present (there being in attendance the requisite number required under the rules of the Committee to be present for the purpose of taking testimony), the Committee determines that evidence or testimony may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any individual, the following will apply:

(1) Such testimony or evidence will be presented in Executive Session.

(2) The Committee will proceed to receive such testimony in open session only if a majority of the members of the Committee, a majority being present, determine that such evidence or testimony will not tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person.

(3) In either case the Committee will afford such person an opportunity voluntarily to appear as a witness, and receive and dispose of requests from such person to subpoena additional witnesses.

f. Except as provided in Section 23e, above, the Presiding Officer will receive and the Committee will dispose of requests to subpoena additional witnesses.

g. No evidence or testimony taken in Executive Session may be released or used in Public sessions without the consent of the Committee.

h. It is within the discretion of the Committee, that witnesses may submit brief and pertinent sworn statements in writing for inclusion in the record. The Committee is the sole judge of the pertinence of testimony and evidence adduced at its hearing.

i. A witness may obtain any record of his or her testimony given and recorded at a Public Hearing.

24. Subpoena Power.

a. For the purpose of carrying out any of its functions and duties a Standing Committee is authorized to:

(1) Hold such hearings at times and places in the manner allowed under this Act.

(2) Require, by a formal written request or a subpoena, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memorandums, papers, and documents as it deems necessary.

b. Standing Committee use of subpoena power will be limited and used as a last resort if other means of obtaining information is unsuccessful.

c. A subpoena under Section 24 a and b, above, may be only authorized by a majority vote of the Committee. The power to authorize subpoenas under Section 24 a and b, above, may be delegated to the Presiding Officer of the Standing Committee pursuant to such rules and under such limitations as the Standing Committee may prescribe. Authorized subpoenas will be signed by the Presiding Officer of the Standing Committee or by any member designated by the Committee.

d. Upon application by the Presiding Officer, the Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court will have jurisdiction to issue to any person an order requiring the attendance and testimony of such person or witnesses and the production of books, records, correspondence, memorandums, papers, and documents as it deems necessary.

(1) Any order issued in accordance with this paragraph will be issued within

forty-eight (48) hours after application by the Presiding Officer.

(2) The affected party may plead to the Trial Court to hear the party's right to contest the subpoena because of executive privilege or other privileges or immunities.

e. Compliance with any order issued by the Trial Court will be enforced by the Court upon petition by the Presiding Officer of the Standing Committee requesting the presence of a certain person(s).

f. Any failure to obey any order issued by the Trial Court under this section may be punished by said Court as contempt thereof and civil penalties will apply.

25. Presentation of Outside Vendor Proposals.

a. Except for situations covered under Section 25 b., all proposals brought before the Legislature for the Nation to work with an outside vendor shall be referred to the appropriate Standing Committee.

b. A proposal does not need to be referred to a Standing Committee under the following situations:

(1) The Vice President or full Legislature determines that the delay in sending the proposal to a Standing Committee would adversely impact the interest of the Nation;

(2) The outside vendor is a TERO Certified Vendor or Native American owned business;

(3) The outside vendor has had a continuing relationship with the Nation and the proposal represents a continuation of the outside vendor's previous work; or

(4) The aggregate dollar amount of the proposal is below \$25,000.

c. The Legislature shall select which Standing Committee shall hear the proposal.

d. Background investigation.

(1) If the dollar amount of the proposal is above \$25,000, a thorough background investigation of the outside vendor shall be conducted.

(2) The Compliance Department shall assist in the background investigation if requested by:

(a) The entity engaged in the negotiations; or

(b) The Legislature or the Standing Committee. The motion requesting assistance shall not require subsequent ratification by the Legislature.

(3) Unless the Legislature or Standing Committee waives the time requirement, the Department of Business, other relevant Department, or entity shall provide the results of the background check to the Presiding Officer, Second Presiding Officer, and members of the Standing Committee at least ten (10) business days prior to the meeting of the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee reserves the right to ask for additional background investigation from any other source.

e. The Legislature shall pass a Resolution to develop an Outside Vendor Proposal Review Committee to review all proposals from outside vendors that are to be presented to the Legislature for approval if the dollar amount of the proposal is above \$100,000. Unless the Standing Committee waives this requirement, the Outside Vendor Proposal Review Committee shall present a report outlining the pros and cons of entering into the proposal.

26. Adoption of Standing Committee Recommendations by the Full Legislature.

a. Legislative Committee's recommendations will be referred to the full Legislature for review and/or action within fourteen (14) days of the adjournment of the Committee Meeting.

b. The Legislature may adopt the recommendations of the Committee in whole or in part.

27. Legislative Recognition Citations.

a. The Legislature or Standing Legislative Committee upon a majority vote, may issue upon its behalf, a citation to a particular person or particular occasion as specified in the citation.

b. Citations may be used in place of Resolutions for commendations, congratulations of persons or organizations, or to give recognition to unusual or important events, except the use of citations will not be abused.

CHAPTER IV **LEGISLATION PROCESS**

28. **General.** For the purpose of this chapter, passage of Legislation makes a permanent change to the General Law (excluding Constitutional Law) of the Nation by creating, amending, repealing, or renumbering a section of the Ho-Chunk Nation Code (HCC).

29. **Ho-Chunk Nation Code.** The Ho-Chunk Nation Code (HCC) will consist of Acts, Ordinances, Statutes, policies, programs, processes, procedures, and manuals adopted by

the Legislature having the force and effect of the Nation's Law. The HCC will be organized into titles with subordinate sections as follows:

- a. Title 1 - Establishment Acts.
- b. Title 2 - Government Code.
- c. Title 3 - Health and Safety Code.
- d. Title 4 - Children, Family, and Elder Welfare Code.
- e. Title 5 - Business and Finance Code.
- f. Title 6 - Personnel, Employment and Labor Code.
- g. Title 7 - Cultural and Natural Resources Code.
- h. Title 8 - Housing, Real Estate, and Property Code.
- i. Title 9 – Criminal Code.
- j. Title 10 - Rules, Manuals, and Procedures.

30. Quick Passage Procedures. The Legislature may vote to immediately pass Legislation.

- a. The Legislature may only exercise this option under the following circumstances:

(1) The Legislature passes a motion to consider Quick Passage of the Legislation. The motion will be immediately effective and not require ratification of the minutes of the meeting at any subsequent Legislative Meeting.

(2) For the Legislation to be considered for Quick Passage the Legislature must conclude:

- (a) The Legislation must take effect immediately to address a situation that:

1 Adversely affects the health, safety, welfare, or economic well-being of the Nation;

2 Adversely affects a person or multiple people for which Legislative relief is deemed appropriate and necessary by the Legislature;

3 Is internal to the operation of the Government; or

4 Impacts negotiations with a sovereign entity; and

(b) Adherence to the Normal Legislation Process outlined in Section 31 would result in a delay that would adversely impact the Nation, a Member of the Nation, or Members of the Nation.

(3) Conclusions of the Legislature with respect to the criteria provided under Section 30 a. (2) above will be final.

b. For the Legislation to immediately become the law of the Nation it will require an affirmative vote of more than two-thirds (2/3) of Legislators present at the Legislative Session. The passage of the Legislation will be immediately effective and not require ratification of the minutes of the meeting at any subsequent Legislative Meeting.

31. Normal Legislation Process.

a. Except for as provided in Section 30, Legislation will go through the Normal Legislation Process.

b. The Normal Legislation Process will consist of three (3) phases:

(1) Internal Review Phase.

(2) Public Review Phase.

(3) Passage Phase.

c. Internal Review Phase.

(1) The Normal Legislation Process will begin through a Resolution or motion by a Legislator:

(a) Unless the Resolution or motion provides for no Legislative Sponsor or the Executive Branch proposed the Legislation, the Legislator who introduces the Resolution or makes the motion will be known as the Legislative Sponsor of the Legislation.

(b) The Resolution or motion may provide that other Legislators are co-sponsor(s) of the Legislation.

(c) The Resolution or motion will provide the:

1 Purpose of the proposed Legislation;

2 Designation of the Responsible Legislative Attorney/Counsel, outside counsel, or other Official to draft the Legislation;

3 Designation of the Executive Officials or Executive Departments, if any, who will work and consult with the Responsible Legislative Attorney/Counsel, outside counsel, or other Official to draft or consult on the Legislation;

4 Unless controlled by the requirements of Section 16 above, the designation of the Standing Legislative Committee to which the Legislation will be referred.

(2) The Responsible Legislative Attorney/Counsel, outside counsel, or other Official selected to draft the Legislation will then:

- (a) Research the applicable law;
- (b) Consult with the Legislative Sponsor and, if any, co-sponsors on the purpose of the Legislation;
- (c) Create a working draft of the Legislation;
- (d) Consult with the Legislative Policy Analyst, to advise the Legislative Sponsor(s), any co-sponsors, and the rest of the Legislature as to whether or not the Legislation conflicts with either the Ho-Chunk Nation Constitution; other Laws of the Nation; and, if applicable, other State and Federal Laws;
- (e) Advise the Legislative Sponsor(s), any co-sponsors, and the rest of the Legislature as to whether or not the Legislation could potentially waive the sovereign immunity of the Nation;
- (f) Coordinate as required with the Executive Department and Department of Justice. If the Responsible Legislative Attorney/Counsel, outside counsel, or other Official selected to draft the Legislation deems it necessary, the Department of Justice will be asked to assign an Attorney to consult on the drafting of the Legislation; and
- (g) Inform the following people when a working draft of the Legislation is completed:
 - 1 The Presiding Officer of the Standing Legislative Committee for which the Legislation was referred;
 - 2 The Legislative Sponsor of the Legislation;
 - 3 Any co-sponsor(s) of the Legislation; and
 - 4 Executive Branch officials impacted by the Legislation.

(3) The Standing Legislative Committee assigned the Legislation will then:

- (a) Consider the Legislation at its next scheduled Meeting;
- (b) Hold, if necessary, a hearing on the Legislation. If the Standing Legislative Committee determines a hearing is required, it will provide sufficient advance notice to Executive Department personnel and other interested parties;

(c) Take one (1) of six (6) actions:

1 Refer the Legislation for an Off-Site to be conducted within sixty (60) days;

2 Return the Legislation to the Legislative Attorney/Counsel, outside counsel, or other Official selected to draft the Legislation for additional information, coordination, and possible rewriting of the Legislation. If the Legislation is referred for additional information, coordination, and possible rewriting, it will be placed on the agenda of the Standing Legislative Committee at its next meeting;

3 Determine to not go forward with the Legislation;

4 Table the Legislation for more input from Executive Branch personnel or from the public;

5 Refer the Legislation to the full Legislature for passage pursuant to the requirements of Section 30; or

6 Vote to move the Legislation to the Public Review Phase. The Standing Legislative Committee may immediately vote on one of the five options provided in the Public Review Phase.

d. Public Review Phase. The Standing Legislative Committee will take by motion one (1) of five (5) actions. If the Committee elects it may vote to take the first two (2) actions simultaneously. The five (5) possible actions of the Committee are as follows:

(1) Refer the Legislation as drafted or as amended for Public Review and set a date after the Public Review period for the Legislation to be considered by the Committee. This action will not require ratification by the full Legislature:

(a) The Public Review period will typically be forty-five (45) days but may be shortened or lengthened as the Committee deems necessary. The Public Review period begins after the Legislation is placed on the Nation's website.

(b) Legislators will review the Legislation at a regularly scheduled District Meeting during the Public review period. Comments received by Legislators will be provided to the Responsible Legislative Attorney/Counsel, Legislative Paralegal, outside counsel, or other Official selected to draft the Legislation.

(2) Hold a Public Hearing within sixty (60) days. This action will not require ratification by the full Legislature, but must be done pursuant to the requirements of the Nation's *Appropriations and Budget Process Act* (2 HCC § 4):

(a) Unless the Vice President waives one of these steps, among the steps that

will be taken in preparation for the Public Hearing include:

1 Notice of Hearing.

a Notice of the Public Hearing will be placed prominently in two consecutive issues of the Nation's official newspaper (currently the *Hocak Worak*);

b A Notice of the Public Hearing will be placed on the Legislative Section of the Nation's website;

c Legislators will notify their constituents at their District Meetings of the Public Hearing; and

d The Standing Legislative Committee may require additional efforts to notify the Public.

2 The Legislative Paralegal and Legislative Secretary or other Legislative Staff will prepare a packet of material which will at a minimum include:

a A redline version of the latest version of the Legislation;

b A clean version of the latest version of the Legislation that already incorporates all proposed changes to the Legislation;

c A copy of the Ho-Chunk Nation Constitution;

d If determined appropriate by Legislative Counsel, any legal analysis of the Code.

(b) Procedures for Public Hearing.

1 Presiding Officer:

a The Vice President may chair the Public Hearing or designate someone else to chair the meeting;

b The Vice President or the person designated to chair the meeting will have the authority to waive any rules for speakers or audience members;

c The Vice President or the person designated to chair the meeting will have the authority to remove any member if the member's behavior is consistently unruly or disruptive to the meeting.

d At the discretion of the Presiding Officer, he or she may use the following steps as a guideline for conducting the Public Hearing:

- (i) Call to order the Public Hearing;
- (ii) Open the Public Hearing;
- (iii) Conduct or designate someone else to conduct an Opening Prayer;
- (iv) Introduce self, hearing body, Legislators present, and staff;
- (v) Inform the public if there is an official written record or recording of the Public Hearing being made;
- (vi) State the purpose of the Public Hearing;
- (vii) Inform the audience of time when breaks will be held;
- (viii) Inform the audience of the material in the packet;
- (ix) State the ground rules for the hearing and the manner in which it will proceed;
- (x) Ask if everyone understands these rules;
- (xi) Ask for questions from members of the hearing body (these questions may also be authorized to occur as the Presiding Officer or the person he or she designates reads the Legislation allowed);
- (xii) Conclude the hearing by making the following statements:
 - (aa) State the steps that are to occur next regarding the Legislation;
 - (bb) Inform members of the audience that additional comments on the Legislation can still be made to the Legislative Paralegal or to his or her Legislator(s);
 - (cc) Thank members of the audience for participating in this important event.

2 Rules for Speakers:

- a Pursuant to the *Open Meetings Act* (2 HCC § 2), a speaker unless he

or she wishes to does not have to identify himself or herself;

b A speaker will respectfully address the Presiding Officer, Legislators, legislative staff, fellow members, and Public participants at all times;

c A speaker will not talk about a matter until he or she has been granted permission to speak by the Presiding Officer;

d A speaker will confine his or her comments to the Legislation that is the subject of the Public Hearing and will not campaign for a public office;

e If the Presiding Officer determines that it is necessary, he or she may require that the speaker keep all comments brief and not speak longer than five (5) minutes at any one given time;

f A speaker will attempt to speak clearly to ensure that his or her comments are properly heard by the audience and, if a court reporter is present that his or her statements are properly recorded;

g If someone has further comments, he or she will be encouraged to submit them to the Legislative Paralegal or other Legislative staff or discuss the matter with one of his or her Legislators;

h Unruly behavior, such as booing, hissing, making harassing remarks, using profanity or obscene language is prohibited;

i A speaker will attempt to speak clearly and wait for the microphone to be handed to him or her to ensure that his or her comments are properly recorded by the court reporter.

3 Audience member rules:

a All members of the Public, Legislative Staff, and Legislators will be subject to zero tolerance for alcohol and other drugs at the meeting;

b All members of the audience will show respect to speakers, the Presiding Officer, the court reporter, or any other Official present at the Public Hearing;

c No member of the public will interrupt another while speaking unless it is to make an inquiry or point of order (raising a question about the correctness of a certain procedure);

d At the discretion of the Presiding Officer, if an audience member consistently violates any of these rules, he or she may be asked to leave the hearing.

4 At the discretion of the Vice President, a record of the Public Hearing may be made by a court reporter or recorded by a videographer and/or other electronic means.

(c) No official Legislative action may be taken regarding the Legislation or any other matter at the Public Hearing.

(3) Amend the Legislation and refer it as Amended to the full Legislature. The Legislation will then be referred to the next Regular Monthly Meeting of the Legislature, but only upon a determination by the Legislative Sponsor that it is ready.

(4) Refer the Legislation as drafted to the full Legislature.

(5) Determine to not go forward with the Legislation.

e. Passage Phase. Steps after Standing Committee Votes to Refer Legislation to Legislature:

(1) The Responsible Legislative Attorney/Counsel, outside counsel, or other Official selected to draft the Legislation will prepare a final proposed version of the Legislation.

(2) Unless this requirement is waived by the Standing Committee, the Legislative Sponsor(s), any co-sponsors, any interested Executive Departments, and the Department of Justice will be given seven (7) business days to review and comment on the final proposed Legislation prior to it being provided to the Legislators for the Final Review Period.

(3) The final proposed Legislation will then be submitted to each Legislator for a Final Review Period.

(a) Unless shortened by the Committee, the Final Review Period will be seven (7) business days.

(b) The Legislation will be calendared by the Legislative Secretary for the first scheduled Meeting of the Legislature following the end of the Final Review Period.

(4) The Responsible Legislative Attorney/Counsel, outside counsel, or other Official selected to draft the Legislation will prepare a Resolution adopting the Legislation as Law and attach the Resolution to the final version of the proposed Legislation.

(5) Legislative Action.

(a) Any Legislator may introduce the final proposed Legislation to the full

Legislature.

(b) Upon a Legislator introducing the Legislation, the Legislature will take one of the following actions:

- 1 Adopt the Legislation as written as law;
- 2 Adopt the Legislation as Amended during the Legislative Meeting;
- 3 Table the Legislation and provide instructions to the Responsible Legislative Attorney/Counsel, outside counsel, or Official designated to draft the Legislation;
- 4 Reject the Legislation and return it to the Legislative Sponsor(s).

32. Technical Violations.

a. Any technical violation of the procedures for Legislation becoming Law will not serve as a basis for invalidating that Law.

b. If the Legislature passes a Resolution to enact a Law, it shall be presumed that the Legislature complied with all necessary steps contained within this Act.

33. Publishing a Law.

a. Legislation approved and ratified by the Legislature and enacted as Law will be published by the Legislative Secretary as a new Law, a Restated Law, an Amendment to an existing Law, a repeal of an existing Law, or as a renumbered section of the Ho-Chunk Nation Code (HCC).

b. The Legislative Secretary will distribute the published Law to all government entities and publish a notice of the passage of the law in the Nation's official newspaper (currently the *Hocak Worak*).

c. The Legislative Paralegal or other assigned Legislative staff will place the published law in the Ho-Chunk Nation Code Folder and on the Legislature's web page on the Internet.

d. A copy of the law with the original adopting Resolution will be maintained by the Secretary of the Legislature in the official file of Ho-Chunk Nation Code (HCC).

e. The Legislative History of a law will be maintained and recorded at the end of each published law.

34. Legislation Format. Legislation will be formatted using this Act as a general format

with the following technical specifications. Failure to follow these exact technical specifications will not invalidate or impact the substantive meaning of the Legislation or the Law:

- a. Page Setup. Margins. L/R: 1.25; Top: 1.1 and Bottom 0.9; Header/Footer: 0.5.
- b. Tabs: .25".
- c. Font and Format. Times New Roman.
 - (1) Title of the Code: Upper Case; 14 pt; Bold; Centered.
 - (2) Enacted by Legislature: Upper Case; 14 pt; Bold; Centered.
 - (3) Last Amended and Restated Date (if applicable): Upper Case; 12 pt; Bold; Centered.
 - (4) Cite: Upper Case; 14 pt; Bold; Centered.
 - (5) Note on Supersession (if applicable): Sentence Case; 12 pt; Italic.
 - (6) Table of Contents:
 - (a) Heading: Upper Case; 12 pt; Bold; Underlined; Centered.
 - (b) Chapters (if used): Title Case; 12 pt; Bold; Centered; Roman Numerals.
 - (c) Sections: (Number (Tab 1.25")); Title; Leader; Page Number (Tab 4.8")); Title Case; 12 pt.
 - (7) Body Text: See paragraphs d(4) through d(6), below.
 - (8) Legislative History: Sentence Case; 10 pt.
 - (9) Page Footer: Page Number; Centered; 10 pt.
 - (10) Page Header Beginning on Page 2: Title Case; 10 pt; Bold, Left Justified.

As follows:

 - d. System of Numbering:
 - (1) A section of the Ho-Chunk Nation Code is divided into titles, e.g., Title 1 (Establishment Acts).
 - (2) A title is divided into sections, e.g., 6 HCC § 8 (*Occupational Safety and*

Health Program Act).

(3) A section may be divided into subsections when a multitude of separate topics are included, e.g., 6 HCC § 8-12 (Ergonomics subsection of the *Occupational Safety and Health Program Act*).

(4) A section or subsection may be further divided into chapters, e.g., 2 HCC § 11.III (Chapter III, Legislation Process, of 2 HCC § 11 (*Legislative Organization Act*)). Chapters will only be cited when citing the entire chapter. If not referring to the entire chapter, sections or paragraphs will be cited IAW paragraphs (e) and (f), below. If used, chapters will be formatted as: Upper Case; Bold; Centered; Roman Numerals.

(5) A section or subsection is further divided into subordinate sections, e.g., 4 HCC § 5.29 (Section 29, Penalty for Violation, 4 HCC § 5 (*Domestic Abuse Act*)). Sections will be formatted as: Title Case; 12 pt.; Bold; Left Justification; Arabic Numerals.

(6) Subordinate sections are further divided into paragraphs.

(a) A paragraph may or may not begin with a title. Titles (if used) will be: Title Case; 12 pt; Underlined.

(b) Subordination of Paragraphs Following Section Number.

Alphabetic; Period; Tab .25"; Example: a.

Numerical; Parentheses; Tab .5"; Example: (1)

Alphabetic; Parentheses; Tab .75"; Example: (a)

Numerical; Underlined; Tab 1.0"; Example: 1

Alphabetic; Underlined; Tab 1.25"; Example: a

Roman Numeral; Parentheses; Tab 1.5"; Example: (i)

Double Alphabetical; Parentheses; Tab 1.75"; Example: (aa)

Roman Numeral; Underlined; Tab 2.0"; Example: i

35. Citations.

a. Act, Statute, Ordinance, etc. Example: 5 HCC § 5 (for *Finance Manual* as Section 5 of Title 5 (Business and Finance)).

b. Subsection. Example: 6 HCC § 8-12 (for Subsection 12 (Ergonomics) to the *Occupational Safety and Health Program Act* (Section 8) of Title 6 (Personnel, Employment and Labor)).

c. Entire Chapter. Example: 6 HCC § 5.IV (for Chapter IV (Employee Benefits) to the *Employment Relations Act* (Section 5) of Title 6 (Personnel, Employment and Labor Code)).

d. Section. Example: 1 HCC § 10.5 (for Section 5 (Internal Organization) to the *Department of Personnel Establishment and Organization Act*.)

e. Paragraphs. Examples:

5 HCC § 5.27a (Paragraph 27a of *Finance Manual*).

5 HCC § 5.27a(1) (Paragraph 27a(1) of *Finance Manual*).

5 HCC § 5.7f(1)(a) (Paragraph 7f(1)(a) of *Finance Manual*).

5 HCC § 5.7f(1)(a)1 (Paragraph 7f(1)(a)1 of *Finance Manual*).

5 HCC § 5.27a-c (Paragraphs 27a through 27c).

36. Distribution Policy.

a. All Codes, Ordinances and official meeting minutes (excluding Executive Session except for as provided in Section 36c) will be available through the Legislative Office.

b. All Codes, Ordinances, and official meeting minutes (excluding Executive Session except for as provided in Section 36c) will be made available free of charge to members of the Nation through the Legislative Office upon a written or oral request identifying the materials desired.

c. For any matter discussed in Executive Session the Legislature has the right to have the matter remain confidential to protect the interest of the Nation. The Legislature may pass a Resolution or motion to determine the procedures for when a matter that is discussed in Executive Session may be made public.

d. Paper copies of all Codes, Ordinances and official meeting minutes (excluding Executive Session except for as provided in Section 36c) will be made available through the Legislative Office to any non-member or organization at a cost of \$.10 per page and any postage fees, if applicable.

e. Codes and Ordinances will be placed on the Ho-Chunk Nation website as they are enacted or amended. They may be copied as required.

f. The Legislative Secretary will keep an official copy of all Codes and Ordinances and Amendments to Codes and Ordinances. These copies will serve as the official Laws of the Nation.

CHAPTER V

CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT

37. **Purpose.** This Chapter provides emergency procedures for the Legislature to fulfill its Constitutional mandate to conduct Regular Monthly Meetings when faced with a loss of Quorum due to the death or incapacitation of Legislators resulting from natural or manmade disasters.

38. **Vacancies in the Legislature.** Article IX, Section 10 of the Constitution states:

Section 10. Vacancies in the Legislature. If a vacancy occurs in the Legislature because of death, mental or physical incapacity, removal or recall vote, resignation, felony conviction, or for any other reason, such vacancy shall be filled in the following manner:

a. If three (3) months or more remain before the next General Election, the Election Board shall call a Special Election in the appropriate District to be held within thirty (30) days.

b. If less than three (3) months remain before the next General Election, the seat shall remain vacant, except when the Vice President assumes the office of the President pursuant to Section 9(b) of this Article, an election to fill that vacancy shall be held within thirty (30) days.

39. **Scope.** This Chapter only applies to emergency situations when vacancies of seven (7) or more Legislators occur at one time causing a loss of Quorum and these vacancies cannot be filled within thirty (30) days or sooner to reconstitute Quorum for the Legislature to conduct official business.

40. **Authority.** During emergency situations and until the full Legislature is reconstituted, the remaining Legislators will be empowered to continue to conduct the daily Legislative and Administrative business of the Legislature with the following limited powers:

a. If the position of Vice President is vacant, the Legislature will appoint a Vice President pro tempore.

b. The first order of business of the Legislature will be to call for a Special Election within thirty (30) days to elect Legislators for vacant positions. The Election Board formed pursuant to the *Election Ordinance* (2 HCC § 6) will be empowered to waive the time requirements of the *Election Ordinance* (2 HCC § 6) to conduct the Special Elections.

c. The Legislature will not affect or alter the employment or compensation status of employees of the Nation.

d. The Legislature will not alter budgets previously approved by the full Legislature.

e. The Legislature will make no decisions binding or obligating the resources of the Nation, except when the appropriation of funding is necessary for repairing and reconstruction of the Nation's facilities caused from a disaster.

CHAPTER VI SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY

41. Sovereign Immunity.

a. Nothing in this Act shall be deemed to waive the sovereign immunity of the Ho-Chunk Nation or any of its enterprises, officers, agents, or employees.

b. Pursuant to Article XII, Sections 1 and 2 of the Constitution, the Legislature in taking any action will be deemed to not have waived the Nation's sovereign immunity from suit, unless the Legislature expressly waives the Nation's sovereign immunity.

Legislative History:

2/8/95	Legislature enacts HCC 95-001, "Bill Process" by Legislative Resolution 2/8/95A as internal operating rules for the Legislature.
6/27/96	Draft "Legislative Organization Act of 1996" presented to the Administrative Rules/Election Committee.
7/2/96	Legislature adopts rules entitled "Bill Process, Amended Legislative Internal Operating Rules of 11996" by Legislative Resolution 7/2/96D.
9/13/00	Reviewed by Administration Committee. Forwarded to Full Legislature and posted for 45-day Public Review.
2/13/01	Legislative Organization Act of 2001 enacted as 2 HCC § 11 by Legislative Resolution 2/13/01D.
12/3/03	Amended and Restated by Legislative Resolution 12/3/03A amending paragraphs 9b(1) and 9d(1) regarding Legislator attendance at meetings.
10/12/04	Administration Committee reviews provisions for Continuity of Government in the event of an emergency situation when quorum cannot be established within thirty days.
10/19/04	Legislature places draft amended and Restated Legislative Organization Act out for 45-Day Public Review.
1/4/05	Amended and Restated by Legislative Resolution 1/4/05B amending the requirements for quorum (para 9b(4)) and establishing emergency procedures for the continuity of the Legislature in the event of a disaster that results in the loss of quorum (Chapter IV).
12/20/06	Legislative discussion held on the need of amending the Legislative Organization Act. Legislative Counsel will review the Act, make revisions and forward to the Administration Committee for review.
2/16/07	Administration Committee Motion to table Code for next Administration Committee Meeting.
3/16/07	Administration Committee Motion to table Code for additional changes to be submitted by Legislative Counsel at the next Administration Committee Meeting.
4/10/07	Administration Committee Motion to table Act for one month for review and for Legislative Counsel to coordinate a work group.
5/22/07	Pursuant to the Legislative Organization Act, the Legislature motions for an Off-Site to be conducted to review possible amendments to the Legislative Organization Act.
09/23 /07	Pursuant to the Legislative Organization Act, the Administration Committee motions for the Vice President and Legislative Attorney to select a time to hold an Off-Site and to conduct the Off-Site at one of the Nation's facilities.

Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature
Legislative Organization Act
Page 46 of 46

10/10/07 Legislature holds an Off-Site.
12/12/07 Legislature holds an Off-Site.
12/18/07 Legislative motion to approve sending the amendments to the Act out for a 45-day public comment and review period.
2/22/08 Forty-five day public comment and review period ends.
7/22/08 Legislature passes motion to table passage of Amendments to Legislative Organization Act to review outstanding issue surrounding physical presence requirements for obtaining quorum.
8/05/08 Legislature passes Resolution to adopt Amendments to Legislative Organization Act.
11/05/08 Legislature passes Resolution adopting Amendments to procedures contained in Section 10, subparagraph f. regarding procedures for posting vacancies on boards and committees.
12/10/08 Legislature passes Resolution adopting Amendments to procedures contained in Section 15, subparagraph (a) (1) regarding procedures for conducting Finance Committee meetings when both the Presiding and Second Presiding officer are absent from the meeting.
02/17/09 Placed on Legislative agenda to address changes required as a result of the results of the Special Election on Redistricting, make other technical changes, and a substantive change regarding the service of members on various public bodies in Section 10, subparagraph f. (3). Legislature refers proposed amendments to Administration Committee.
03/05/09 Administration Committee reviews proposed changes and refers back to Legislature to place amendments out for forty-five day public comment.
04/07/09 Legislature passes Resolution to place out for forty-five day public comment, which will end as of May 25, 2009, and removes proposed Amendment for substantive change regarding the service of members on various public bodies in Section 10, subparagraph f. (3).
05/26/09 Forty-five day public comment period ends with only comments being received by Legislative Assistant Darcy Funmaker. All but one of her proposed changes with respect to Area Meetings are incorporated into the version presented for passage to the Legislature.
06/09/09 Legislature passes Resolution adopting amendments to Legislative Organization Act.