

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
(Appropriating Funds for Tohono O'odham Kekel Ha-Mascamakud (Tohono
O'odham Community College) O'odham Ñi'okĩ Ki: (O'odham Language Center)
for Fiscal Years 2023-2027)**

RESOLUTION NO. 23-322

1 **WHEREAS,** the Constitution of the Tohono O'odham Nation vests the Legislative Council with
2 the authority to "promote, protect and provide for public health, peace, morals,
3 education and general welfare of the Tohono O'odham Nation and its members"
4 and to "authorize, charter and regulate public or private corporations and
5 associations whether organized for profit, or for non-profit or charitable
6 purposes" (Constitution of the Tohono O'odham Nation, Article VI, Section 1(c)(2)
7 and Section 1(e)); and

8 **WHEREAS,** Tohono O'odham Kekel Ha-Mascamakud (Tohono O'odham Community College)
9 ("TOCC") was established in January 1998 to serve as the Tohono O'odham
10 Nation's center for higher education, research, culture, and tradition (Amended
11 Charter of Tohono O'odham Kekel Ha-Mascamakud (Tohono O'odham
12 Community College), 11 Tohono O'odham Code Chapter 1, Article 1, Section C);
13 and

14 **WHEREAS,** the O'odham ñi'okĩ (O'odham language) is in decline as it is not being regularly
15 transmitted inter-generationally and it is listed as an endangered language by
16 the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO);
17 and

18 **WHEREAS,** by Resolution No. 20-021, the Legislative Council supported the efforts of TOCC to
19 establish a language center dedicated to the revitalization of the O'odham ñi'okĩ,
20 encouraged and supported TOCC's efforts to secure additional grant funding, and
21 appropriated funds for that purpose for the fiscal years of 2020, 2021, and 2022;
22 and

23 **WHEREAS,** the O'odham Ñi'okĩ Ki: (O'odham Language Center) has reached significant
24 milestones and established critical partnerships designed to revitalize the
25 O'odham ñi'okĩ and make progress in developing language fluency amongst
26 young language learners; and

27 **WHEREAS,** the period for the funds previously appropriated by the Legislative Council for
28 establishing and operating the O'odham Ñi'okĩ Ki: has ended; and

29 **WHEREAS,** the Human Resources Development, Cultural Preservation, and Budget and
30 Finance Committees have reviewed the request for continued financial support
31 to the O'odham Ñi'okĩ Ki: for fiscal years 2023-2027 and recommend approval.
32

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1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council appropriates
2 **funds in the total amount of \$2,164,562.82 from the Tohono O'odham Nation's**
3 **general fund surplus to Tohono O'odham Kekel Ha-Mascamakud, to be disbursed**
4 **to the Tohono O'odham Kekel Ha-Mascamakud for the O'odham Ñi'oki Ki: in the**
5 **following increments on October 1 each fiscal year, provided that an annual**
6 **report will be provided to the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council each year**
7 **before the funds are disbursed:**

- 8 • **\$497,427.31 for fiscal year 2023;**
- 9 • **\$399,452.49 for fiscal year 2024;**
- 10 • **\$410,779.30 for fiscal year 2025;**
- 11 • **\$422,444.32 for fiscal year 2026; and**
- 12 • **\$434,459.40 for fiscal year 2027.**

13 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council continues its support
14 **of the efforts of Tohono O'odham Kekel Ha-Mascamakud to manage and operate**
15 **the O'odham Ñi'oki Ki: dedicated to the revitalization of the O'odham ñi'oki.**

16 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council encourages and
17 **supports efforts by Tohono O'odham Kekel Ha-Madcamakud to continue to**
18 **secure grant funding from entities, including, but not limited to, the National**
19 **Science Foundation, the Administration for Native Americans, and other funding**
20 **sources for the preservation and revitalization of the O'odham ñi'oki.**

21 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council encourages all Tohono
22 **O'odham Nation entities that are involved with O'odham ñi'oki teaching,**
23 **learning, and research to pursue partnership with the O'odham Ñi'oki Ki: for the**
24 **teaching, learning, and research of the O'odham ñi'oki at Tohono O'odham Kekel**
25 **Ha-Mascamakud. Such partnerships will strengthen collaboration, promote the**
26 **sharing of resources and expertise, and contribute to a comprehensive approach**
27 **to language revitalization.**

28 **The foregoing Resolution was passed by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council on the 11TH**
29 **day of AUGUST 2023 at a meeting at which a quorum was present with a vote of 3,263.30 FOR;**
30 **-0- AGAINST; -0- NOT VOTING; and [02] ABSENT, pursuant to the powers vested in the Council by,**
31 **Article VI, Section 1 (c)(2) and Section 1(e) of the Constitution of the Tohono O'odham Nation,**
32 **adopted by the Tohono O'odham Nation on January 18, 1986; and approved by the Acting Deputy**
33 **Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs (Operations) on March 6, 1986, pursuant to Section 16 of the**
34 **Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat.984).**

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TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Wavalene M. Saunders
Wavalene M. Saunders, Legislative Chairwoman
16th day of August, 2023

ATTEST:

Evonne Wilson
Evonne Wilson, Legislative Secretary

16 day of August, 2023

Said Resolution was submitted for approval to the office of the Chairman of the Tohono O'odham Nation on the 16th day of August, 2023 at 4:00 o'clock, p.m., pursuant to the provisions of Section 5 of Article VII of the Constitution and will become effective upon his approval or upon his failure to either approve or disapprove it within 48 hours of submittal.

TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Wavalene M. Saunders
Wavalene M. Saunders, Legislative Chairwoman

APPROVED on the 17 day of August, 2023

DISAPPROVED at 8:23 o'clock, p.m.

Verlon M. Jose
VERLON M. JOSE, CHAIRMAN
TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION

Returned to the Legislative Secretary on the 18 day of
August, 2023, at 10:55 o'clock, a.m.

Evonne Wilson
Evonne Wilson, Legislative Secretary

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ACTION: APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR TOHONO O'ODHAM KEKEL HA-MASCAMAKUD (TOHONO O'ODHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE) O'ODHAM N'OKI KI: (O'ODHAM LANGUAGE CENTER) FOR FISCAL YEARS 2023-2027

MOVED: COUNCILMAN VICTORIA HOBBS

SECOND: COUNCILWOMAN JANICE FELIX

DATE: AUGUST 11, 2023

| DISTRICT | LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES | # OF VOTES | FOR | AGAINST | NOT VOTING | ABSENT |
|----------------------|--|------------------|-----------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| BABOQUIVARI 394.2 | 1. LEANDER MASE (Francine Schooling) 2. JESSE NAVARRO (Alberta J. Ray) | 197.1 197.1 | X X | | | |
| CHUKUT KUK 354.7 | 1. VIVIAN JUAN-SAUNDERS (Cornelius Antone) 2. MARLAKAY HENRY () | 177.35 177.35 | X X | | | |
| GU ACHI 282.7 | 1. VICTORIA HOBBS (Tonya L. Joaquin) 2. TIMOTHY L. JOAQUIN (Jerome L. Joaquin) | 141.35 141.35 | X X | | | X |
| GU VO 276.0 | 1. DALLAS LEWIS () 2. LESLIE LUNA (Grace Manuel) | 138.0 138.0 | X X | | | |
| HICKIWAN 220.5 | 1. DELMA M. GARCIA () 2. LOUIS R. LOPEZ (Loretta A. Ortega) | 110.25 110.25 | X X | | | |
| PISINEMO 236.2 | 1. EDWARD D. MANUAL (Monica Morgan) 2. PAMELA J. BENAVIDEZ (Nora J. Ruelas) | 118.1 118.1 | X X | | | |
| SAN LUCY 257.6 | 1. ROGER MANUEL (Christina Andrews) 2. GLORIA M. RAMIREZ (Lorraine M. Eiler) | 128.8 128.8 | X X | | | |
| SAN XAVIER 244.5 | 1. JANICE FELIX () 2. DANIEL L.A. PRESTON III () | 122.25 122.25 | X X | | | |
| SCHUK TOAK 191.8 | 1. DELISA M. RAMON (Sharon A. Francisco) 2. THEORIA CAMPILO (Rebecca Ann Valentine) | 95.9 95.9 | X X | | | X |
| SELLS 558.0 | 1. EVELYN JUAN-MANUEL (Arvada Liston) 2. JANET B. ELEANDO () | 279.0 279.0 | X X | | | |
| SIF OIDAK 247.1 | 1. LUCINDA ALLEN (Francis Homewytewa) 2. WAVALENE M. SAUNDERS (Mary Lopez) | 123.55 123.55 | X X | | | |
| | TOTAL | 3,263.30 | 3,263.30 | -0- | -0- | [02] |