

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**  
**(Authorizing the Nation's Chairman to Approve/Sign Documents Allowing the**  
**Nation to Participate in Ongoing Opioid Settlement Negotiations)**

**RESOLUTION NO. 25-385**

1   **WHEREAS,**    the Constitution of the Tohono O'odham Nation ("Nation") vests the Legislative  
2                   Council with the power "to consult, negotiate and conclude agreements and  
3                   contracts on behalf of the Tohono O'odham Nation with Federal, State and local  
4                   governments and other Indian tribes or their departments, agencies, or political  
5                   subdivisions, or with private persons or organizations on all matters within the  
6                   authority of the Tohono O'odham Council" (Constitution Article VI, Section 1(f));  
7                   and  
8   **WHEREAS,**    the Native American population has suffered some of the worst consequences of  
9                   the opioid epidemic of any population in the United States with tribal  
10                  governments spending considerable tribal funds to cover the costs of the opioid  
11                  crisis, including increased costs for health care, social services, child welfare, law  
12                  enforcement and other government services; and  
13   **WHEREAS,**    over 400 federally recognized tribes filed litigation against the opioid  
14                  manufacturers, distributors, pharmacies, all of which these tribal plaintiffs  
15                  maintain are responsible for the opioid crisis; and  
16   **WHEREAS,**    on February 1, 2022, the court-appointed Tribal Leadership Committee ("TLC")  
17                  announced settlements by a manufacturer and three distributors of opioid  
18                  products – litigation and settlement negotiations in various courts, including but  
19                  not limited to bankruptcy proceedings, with additional manufacturers and  
20                  distributors are ongoing; and  
21   **WHEREAS,**    it is in the Nation's interest to be able to expedite responses to various requests  
22                  for authorizations, participation, and/or to provide other such  
23                  authorizations/approvals as necessary to continue to participate in litigation and  
24                  settlement related processes; and  
25   **WHEREAS,**    Legislative Council Resolution No. 22-110 authorized "the Nation's Chairman,  
26                  Ned Norris, Jr., or his official designee" to "undertake all actions necessary to  
27                  carry out the purposes of Resolution No. 22-110" and provide signatures in  
28                  furtherance of opioid related litigation and settlements; and  
29   **WHEREAS,**    it is necessary to clarify that such authorities apply to the Office of the Chairman  
30                  and is not restricted to the offices of former Chairman Norris, and this resolution  
31                  clarifies and amends the scope of the authorization provided in Resolution No.  
32                  22-110; and



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1 **WHEREAS, the Health and Human Services and the Domestic Affairs Committees have**  
2 **reviewed this resolution and recommend its approval.**

3 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council, in order to**  
4 **obtain and in consideration for the benefits and anticipated benefits provided to**  
5 **the Nation pursuant to ongoing litigation and settlement negotiations with**  
6 **opioid manufacturers and distributors, authorizes the Office of the Chairman of**  
7 **the Nation or his official designee to sign documents to ensure the Nation's**  
8 **position vis-à-vis any outstanding opioid settlement negotiation or litigation.**

9 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council authorizes the Nation's**  
10 **Chairman, or his official designee, to undertake all actions necessary to carry out**  
11 **the purposes of this resolution.**

12 **The foregoing Resolution was passed by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council on the 15<sup>TH</sup>**  
13 **day of OCTOBER 2025 at a meeting at which a quorum was present with a vote of 3,321.1 FOR; -0-**  
14 **AGAINST; -0- NOT VOTING; and [02] ABSENT, pursuant to the powers vested in the Council by**  
15 **Article VI, Section 1(f) the Constitution of the Tohono O'odham Nation, adopted by the Tohono**  
16 **O'odham Nation on January 18, 1986; and approved by the Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary -**  
17 **Indian Affairs (Operations) on March 6, 1986, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934**  
18 **(48 Stat.984).**

20 **TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

21  
22   
23 **Wavalene M. Saunders, Legislative Chairwoman**

24  
25 22<sup>nd</sup>  
26 **day of** OCTOBER, 2025

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28  
29 **ATTEST:**

30   
31  
32 **Evonne Wilson, Legislative Secretary**

33  
34 22  
35 **day of** OCTOBER, 2025

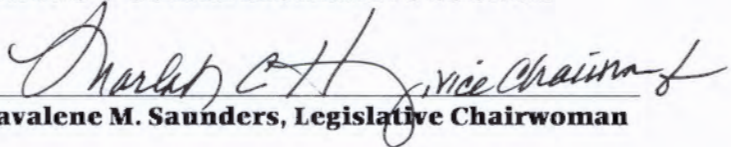
36  
37 **Said Resolution was submitted for approval to the office of the Chairman of the Tohono**  
38 **O'odham Nation on the** 22<sup>nd</sup> **day of** OCTOBER, 2025 **at** 4:30 **o'clock,** P **.m.,**  
39 **pursuant to the provisions of Section 5 of Article VII of the Constitution and will become**  
40 **effective upon his approval or upon his failure to either approve or disapprove it within 48**  
41 **hours of submittal.**  
42  
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44  
45

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TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

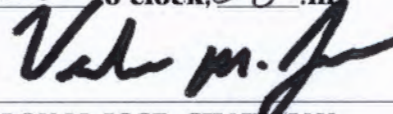
  
Wavalene M. Saunders, Legislative Chairwoman

☒ APPROVED

☐ DISAPPROVED

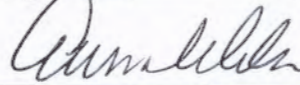
on the 23rd day of OCTOBER, 2025

at 2:00 o'clock, 38 .m.

  
VERLON M. JOSE, CHAIRMAN  
TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION

Returned to the Legislative Secretary on the 23 day of

October, 2025, at 2:42 o'clock, p .m.



Evonne Wilson, Legislative Secretary



**ACTION: AUTHORIZING THE NATION'S CHAIRMAN TO APPROVE/SIGN DOCUMENTS ALLOWING THE NATION TO PARTICIPATE IN ONGOING OPIOID SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATIONS**

**Moved: COUNCILMAN DANIEL L.A. PRESTON III**

**SECOND: COUNCILMAN NED NORRIS JR.**

**DATE: OCTOBER 15, 2025**

DISTRICT	LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES	# OF VOTES	FOR	AGAINST	NOT VOTING	ABSENT
SIF ODAK 251.2	1. WAVALENE M. SAUNDERS (Mary Lopez) 2. FRANCIS HOMEWYTEWA ( )	125.6 125.6	X X			X
SELLS 565.7	1. JANET B. ELEANDO ( ) 2. EVELYN JUAN MANUEL (Juan Buendia)	282.85 282.85	X X			
SCHUK TOAK 195.3	1. THEORIA CAMPILLO (Rebecca Ann Valentine) 2. DELISA M. RAMON (Quintin C. Lopez)	97.65 97.65	X X			
SAN XAVIER 249.8	1. DANIEL L.A. PRESTON III ( ) 2. JANICE FELIX ( )	124.9 124.9	X X			X
SAN LUCY 266.3	1. GLORIA M. RAMIREZ (Lorraine M. Eiler) 2. ROGER MANUEL (Christina Andrews)	133.15 133.15	X X			
PISINEMO 240.3	1. PAMELA J. BENAVIDEZ (Nora J. Ruelas) 2. NAOMI MONTE (Edward D. Manuel)	120.15 120.15	X X			
HICKIWAN 222.9	1. LOUIS R. LOPEZ (Loretta A. Ortega) 2. DELMA M. GARCIA ( )	111.45 111.45	X X			
GU VO 279.6	1. LESLIE LUNA ( ) 2. BENNETT CHEWING ( )	139.8 139.8	X X			
GU ACHI 289.2	1. JEROME F. JOAQUIN (Gloria Johnson) 2. LUCIUS E. LOPEZ (Victoria A. Hobbs)	144.6 144.6	X X			
CHUKUT KUK 361.9	1. MARLAKAY HENRY ( ) 2. VIVIAN JUAN-SAUNDERS (Cornelius Antone)	180.95 180.95	X X			
BABOQUIVARI 398.9	1. JESSE NAVARRO (Alberta J. Ray) 2. NED NORRIS, JR (Leander Mase)	199.45 199.45	X X			
TOTAL		3,321.1	3,321.1	-0-	-0-	[02]