

RESOLUTION OF THE TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
(Approving FY 2026 Tohono O'odham Nation Emergency Financial Relief Budget and
General Welfare Assistance Program Description and Guidelines)

RESOLUTION NO. 25-418

1 **WHEREAS,** the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council is authorized "to manage any funds
2 within the exclusive control of the Tohono O'odham Nation . . . and to appropriate
3 these funds for the benefit of the nation and its members" provided that "[a]ll
4 expenditures of these funds shall be pursuant to appropriations or budgets"
5 authorized by resolution or ordinance (Constitution of the Tohono O'odham
6 Nation, Article VI, Section 1(d)(2)); and

7 **WHEREAS,** the Tohono O'odham Nation intends to provide emergency financial relief to
8 provide Indian General Welfare Assistance benefits in accordance with the
9 Nation's General Welfare Law, 22 T.O.C. Chapter 3, for the purposes of assisting
10 Nation members impacted by the high costs of the economy, federal shutdown
11 and the disruption of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP")
12 benefits; and

13 **WHEREAS,** this program reflects the Nation's exercise of its inherent sovereign right to
14 promote the general welfare of the Nation, its self-determination, culture, and
15 tradition, by providing general welfare assistance, including Indian general
16 welfare benefits within the meaning of Internal Revenue Code Section 139E; and

17 **WHEREAS,** the Nation's Executive Office has prepared and submitted for review and
18 approval its FY 2026 Tohono O'odham Nation Emergency Financial Relief Budget,
19 which is incorporated by this reference, in the total amount of \$22,500,000.00 to
20 be funded from the Nation's general fund surplus; and

21 **WHEREAS,** the Budget and Finance Committee has reviewed the FY 2026 Tohono O'odham
22 Nation Emergency Financial Relief Budget and recommends its approval.

23 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council:

- 24 1. approves the FY 2026 Tohono O'odham Nation Emergency Financial Relief
25 Budget effective October 1, 2025 through January 31, 2026, in the amount of
26 \$22,500,000.00, which shall be funded by the Nation's general fund surplus,
27 provided that any unspent funds shall be returned to the Nation's general
28 fund surplus; and
- 29 2. approves the Emergency Financial Relief Program Description and
30 Guidelines, which set eligibility requirements and exclude former Nation's
31 members who have relinquished.
32

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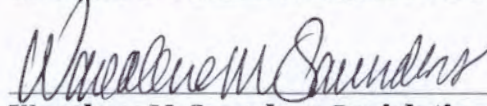
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council that the FY 2026 Emergency Financial Relief Budget and its funds are not subject to probate or beneficiary payments.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council that the Tohono O'odham Nation chairperson or any designated official is authorized to administer and expend the FY 2026 Tohono O'odham Nation Emergency Financial Relief Budget, provided that any amendments or modifications shall be submitted for prior approval by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council.

The foregoing Resolution was passed by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council on the 13TH day of NOVEMBER 2025 at a meeting at which a quorum was present with a vote of 3,321.1 FOR; -0- AGAINST; -0- NOT VOTING; and [02] ABSENT, pursuant to the powers vested in the Council by Article VI, Section 1(d)(2) and (3) of the Constitution of the Tohono O'odham Nation, adopted by the Tohono O'odham Nation on January 18, 1986; and approved by the Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs (Operations) on March 6, 1986, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat.984).

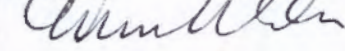
TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL



Wavalene M. Saunders, Legislative Chairwoman

13 day of November, 2025

ATTEST:

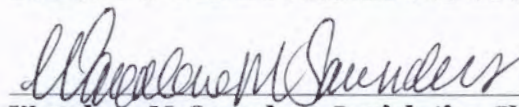


Evonne Wilson, Legislative Secretary

13 day of November, 2025

Said Resolution was submitted for approval to the office of the Chairman of the Tohono O'odham Nation on the 13 day of November, 2025 at 2:40 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, Legislative Chairwoman

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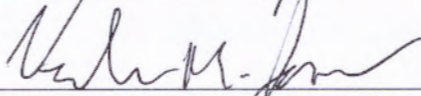
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☒ APPROVED

on the 13 day of November, 2025

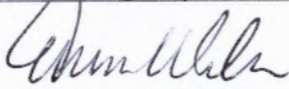
☐ DISAPPROVED

at 2:52 o'clock, P.m.


VERLON M. JOSE, CHAIRMAN
TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION

Returned to the Legislative Secretary on the 13 day of

November, 2025, at 2:59 o'clock, P.m.



Evonne Wilson, Legislative Secretary

ACTION: APPROVING FY 2026 TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION EMERGENCY FINANCIAL RELIEF BUDGET AND GENERAL WELFARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND GUIDELINES

MOVED: VICE CHAIRWOMAN MARLAKAY HENRY

SECOND: COUNCILMAN LUCIUS E. LOPEZ

DATE: NOVEMBER 13, 2025

DISTRICT	LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES	# OF VOTES	FOR	AGAINST	NOT VOTING	ABSENT
SIF OIDAK 251.2	1. WAVALENE M. SAUNDERS (Mary Lopez) 2. FRANCIS HOMEWYTEWA ()	125.6 125.6	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			
SAN LUCY 266.3	1. GLORIA M. RAMIREZ (Lorraine M. Eller) 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			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 (<i>Absent</i>) (Gloria Johnson) (<i>Present</i>) 2. LUCIUS E. LOPEZ (Victoria A. Hobbs)	144.6 144.6	X X			
CHUKUT KUK 361.9	1. MARLAKAY HENRY () 2. VIVIAN JUAN-SAUNDERS (<i>Absent</i>) (Cornelius Antone) (<i>Present</i>)	180.95 180.95	X 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]