

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
(Appointing Representative Pamela J. Benavidez as an Interim Member of
the Tohono O'odham Nation Health Care Governing Body)**

RESOLUTION NO. 26-194

1 **WHEREAS, the Constitution of the Tohono O'odham Nation vests the Legislative Council with**
2 **the power to “provide for, appoint, or provide for the appointment of, and**
3 **prescribe the duties and powers of committees, boards, officers and agents” and**
4 **“to promote, protect and provide for public health, peace, morals, education and**
5 **general welfare of the Tohono O'odham Nation and its members” (Constitution,**
6 **Article VI, Section 1(b) and Section 1(c)(2)); and**

7 **WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 19-087, the Legislative Council approved the March 2019**
8 **Amendments to the Tohono O'odham Nation Health Care Governing Body Bylaws,**
9 **which established a Governing Body comprised of seven members of which five**
10 **members are voting members nominated by the Nation's chairperson and**
11 **confirmed by the Legislative Council to serve staggered four-year terms; and**

12 **WHEREAS, the Tohono O'odham Nation Health Care Governing Body (“Governing Body”)**
13 **Bylaws provides that “members shall serve four-year terms, or until their**
14 **successors are nominated and confirmed, . . .” (Tohono O'odham Nation Health**
15 **Care Governing Body Bylaws, Article II, Section 9201(D)); and**

16 **WHEREAS, the Governing Body Bylaws further provide that “[N]o elected officials are eligible**
17 **to be members of the Governing Body” (Tohono O'odham Nation Health Care**
18 **Governing Body Bylaws, Article II, Section 9201(B)); and**

19 **WHEREAS, with the recent resignation of one of the Governing Body members, leaving the**
20 **Governing Body with only two members, it is in the Nation's best interest that**
21 **interim members of the Tohono O'odham Nation Health Care Governing Body be**
22 **appointed to exercise the Governing Body's functions pending the appointment**
23 **of qualified, permanent Governing Body members; and**

24 **WHEREAS, the Health and Human Services Committee recommends the appointment of**
25 **Representative Pamela J. Benavidez as an interim member of the Tohono**
26 **O'odham Nation Health Care Governing Body.**

27 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, notwithstanding Article II, Section 9201(B) to the**
28 **contrary, the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council appoints Representative**
29 **Pamela J. Benavidez as an interim member of the Tohono O'odham Nation Health**
30 **Care Governing Body, provided that:**

31

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(Appointing Representative Pamela J. Benavidez as an Interim Member of the Tohono O'odham Nation Health Care Governing Body)

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- (1) nothing in this resolution precludes the Legislative Council from appointing a Tohono O'odham Nation Health Care Governing Body member to replace interim TONHC Governing Body member Representative Pamela J. Benavidez;**
- (2) interim TONHC Governing Body member Representative Pamela J. Benavidez shall not be eligible for stipends, per diem, mileage, travel expenses or any other payments as an interim TONHC Governing Body member;**
- (3) with the exception of paragraph 4, interim TONHC Governing Body member Representative Pamela J. Benavidez shall continue to serve until a successor has been appointed; and**
- (4) if interim TONHC Governing Body member Representative Pamela J. Benavidez no longer serves on the Legislative Council as a Legislative Council representative, her appointment to the Tohono O'odham Nation Health Care Governing Body shall expire immediately.**

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council that the Health and Human Services Committee shall provide monthly updates to the Legislative Council on the status of finding qualified TONHC Governing Body candidates.

The foregoing Resolution was passed by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council on the 10TH day of JUNE 2026 at a meeting at which a quorum was present with a vote of 1,770.7 FOR; 1,550.4 AGAINST; [01] NOT VOTING; and [03] ABSENT, pursuant to the powers vested in the Council by Article VI, Section 1(b) and Section 1(c)(2) 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

12TH day of June, 2026

RESOLUTION NO. 26-194

(Appointing Representative Pamela J. Benavidez as an Interim Member of the Tohono O'odham Nation Health Care Governing Body)

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ATTEST:

Evonne Wilson, Legislative Secretary

12 day of June, 2026

Said Resolution was submitted for approval to the office of the Chairman of the Tohono O'odham Nation on the 12th day of June, 2026 at 4:48 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

[X] APPROVED

on the 12 day of June, 2026

[] DISAPPROVED

at 5:23 o'clock, P.M.

VERLON M. JOSE, CHAIRMAN
TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION

Returned to the Legislative Secretary on the 12 day of

June, 2026, at 5:29 o'clock, P.M.

Evonne Wilson, Legislative Secretary

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ACTION: APPOINTING REPRESENTATIVE PAMELA J. BENAVIDEZ AS AN INTERIM MEMBER OF THE TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION HEALTH CARE GOVERNING BODY

Moved: COUNCILMAN BENNETT CHEWING

SECOND: COUNCILWOMAN VIVIAN JUAN-SAUNDERS

DATE: JUNE 10, 2026

DISTRICT	LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES	# OF VOTES	FOR	AGAINST	NOT VOTING	ABSENT
SIF OIDAK 251.2	1. WAVALENE M. SAUNDERS (Mary Lopez)	125.6		X		
	2. FRANCIS HOMEWYTEWA (Dionne Kuth-Le)	125.6	X			
SELLS 565.7	1. JANET B. ELEANDO ()	282.85		X		
	2. EVELYN JUAN MANUEL (Juan Buendia)	282.85		X		X
SCHUK TOAK 195.3	1. THEORIA CAMPILLO (Rebecca Ann Valentine)	97.65		X		
	2. DELISA M. RAMON (Quintin C. Lopez)	97.65		X		
SAN XAVIER 249.8	1. DANIEL I.A. PRESTON III ()	124.9	X			
	2. JANICE FELIX ()	124.9	X			X
SAN LUCY 266.3	1. GLORIA M. RAMIREZ (Lorraine M. Eiler)	133.15	X			
	2. ROGER MANUEL (Christina Andrews)	133.15	X			
PISINEMO 240.3	1. PAMELA J. BENAVIDEZ (Nora J. Ruelas)	120.15	X			
	2. NAOMI MONTE (Edward D. Manuel)	120.15		X		
HICKIWAN 222.9	1. LOUIS R. LOPEZ (Loretta A. Ortega)	111.45		X	X	
	2. DELMA M. GARCIA ()	111.45		X		
GU VO 279.6	1. LESLIE LUNA ()	139.8		X		
	2. BENNETT CHEWING ()	139.8	X			
GU ACHI 289.2	1. GLORIA JOHNSON (Rodney Aguilla)	144.6	X			
	2. LUCIUS E. LOPEZ (Victoria A. Hobbs)	144.6	X			
CHUKUT KUK 361.9	1. MARLAKAY HENRY ()	180.95		X		
	2. VIVIAN JUAN-SAUNDERS (Cornelius Antone)	180.95	X			
BABOQUIVARI 398.9	1. JESSE NAVARRO ()	199.45	X			X
	2. NED NORRIS, JR. (Absent) (Leander Mase) (Present)	199.45	X			
TOTAL		3,321.1	1,770.7	1,550.4	[01]	[03]