

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
(Adopting 2025 Amendments to 12 Tohono O'odham Code Chapter 1 – Elections)**

RESOLUTION NO. 26-238

1 **WHEREAS, the Legislative Council is vested with “[a]ll legislative powers of the Tohono**
2 **O’odham Nation” and is expressly vested with the power to “enact laws and**
3 **ordinances for conducting and regulating elections” (Constitution of the Tohono**
4 **O’odham Nation, Article V, Section 1 and Article VI, Section 1 (g)); and**

5 **WHEREAS, pursuant to Article X, Section 7 of the Constitution,**

6 **The Tohono O’odham Council shall enact an election ordinance which**
7 **shall prescribe rules for the apportionment of representatives to each**
8 **district council when elections of such representatives are from**
9 **communities within the district and not from the district at large, and for**
10 **the setting and holding of primary elections for the offices of chairman**
11 **and vice chairman of the Tohono O’odham [Nation] and of the district**
12 **council, and which shall prescribe the qualifications of candidates, the**
13 **registration requirements for voting and such other rules and**
14 **procedures necessary to the orderly conduct of elections, including but**
15 **not limited to procedures for validation of petitions and the settlement of**
16 **any and all election disputes. The decision of the Tohono O’odham**
17 **Council in all election matters, including the eligibility and**
18 **qualifications of candidates, shall be final.**

19 **; and**

20 **WHEREAS, the Rules Committee, in collaboration with the Nation’s Election Board, drafted**
21 **amendments to the Nation’s Elections law to clarify the authorized uses for the**
22 **Official List of Registered Voters, to require candidates for the offices of**
23 **Legislative Council representative, Nation’s chairperson and vice chairperson,**
24 **and district council chairperson and vice chairperson to submit a list of all**
25 **tribal court criminal convictions, if any, to authorize the Board to declare a**
26 **candidate disqualified if the Board verifies that the candidate has been**
27 **convicted of a felony and to notify Council of the disqualification; and**

28 **WHEREAS, under the proposed amendments, the disqualified candidate may appeal his or**
29 **her disqualification to the Legislative Council; and**

30 **WHEREAS, the amendments clarify deadlines for filing election contests, and also require**
31 **that a contest statement alleging misconduct by the Board be filed with the**
32 **secretary of the Council, and also require that the Election Board determine**

RESOLUTION NO. 26-238

(Adopting 2025 Amendments to 12 Tohono O'odham Code Chapter 1 - Elections)

Page 2 of 3

within two business days of receipt whether the contest statement filed with the Board is valid or invalid; and

WHEREAS, the amendments also establish an earlier date for voters to request an absentee ballot and require that a candidate remove campaign signs after the election or pay for the cost of removal; and

WHEREAS, the Rules Committee provided an initial version of the 2025 amendments for public comment on December 19, 2025 and then extended the public comment period to April 24, 2026 and then again to June 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Rules Committee held two public hearings, one virtual and one in person on March 17, 2026 and June 16, 2026; and

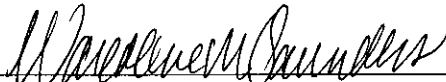
WHEREAS, the Rules Committee reviewed and considered all written and verbal comments regarding the 2025 amendments and made edits accordingly; and

WHEREAS, in the best interests of Nation's members, the Rules Committee recommends adoption of the 2025 amendments to 12 Tohono O'odham Code Chapter 1 - Elections, which are incorporated by this reference.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council that it adopts the 2025 amendments to 12 Tohono O'odham Code Chapter 1 - Elections.

The foregoing Resolution was passed by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council on the 03RD day of AUGUST 2026 at a meeting at which a quorum was present with a vote of 2,705.9 FOR; 615.2 AGAINST; [01] NOT VOTING; and [02] ABSENT, pursuant to the powers vested in the Council by Article V, Section 1 and Article VI, Section 1(g) 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

6 day of August, 2026

ATTEST:


Evonne Wilson, Legislative Secretary

4 day of August, 2026

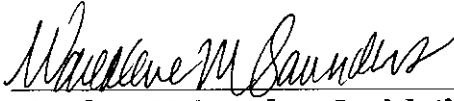
RESOLUTION NO. 26-238

(Adopting 2025 Amendments to 12 Tohono O'odham Code Chapter 1 - Elections)

Page 3 of 3

Said Resolution was submitted for approval to the office of the Chairman of the Tohono O'odham Nation on the 10 day of August, 2026 at 4:10 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

☒ **APPROVED**

on the 6 day of August, 2026

☐ **DISAPPROVED**

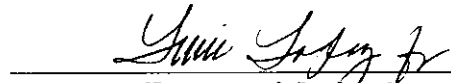
at 5:06 o'clock, P.m.



**VERLON M. JOSE, CHAIRMAN
TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION**

Returned to the Legislative Secretary on the 7 day of

August, 2026, at 8:41 o'clock, A.m.



Evonne Wilson, Legislative Secretary

ACTION: ADOPTING 2025 AMENDMENTS TO 12 TOHONO O'ODHAM CODE CHAPTER 1 – ELECTIONS**MOVED: COUNCILWOMAN THEORIA CAMPILLO****SECOND: COUNCILWOMAN JANET B. ELEANDO****DATE: AUGUST 03, 2026**

DISTRICT	LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES	# OF VOTES	FOR	AGAINST	NOT VOTING	ABSENT
SIF OIDAK 251.2	1. WAVALENE M. SAUNDERS (Mary Lopez) 2. FRANCIS HOMEWYTEWA (Dionne Kuth-Le)	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. Eiler) 2. ROGER MANUEL (Christina Andrews)	133.15 133.15	X X	X		
PISINEMO 240.3	1. PAMELA J. BENAVIDEZ (Nora J. Ruelas) 2. NAOMI MONTE (Edward D. Manuel)	120.15 120.15	X 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. GLORIA JOHNSON (Rodney T. Aguilla) 2. LUCIUS E. LOPEZ (Victoria A. Hobbs)	144.6 144.6	X X		X	
CHUKUT KUK 361.9	1. MARLAKAY HENRY () 2. VIVIAN JUAN-SAUNDERS (Cornelius Antone)	180.95 180.95		X X		X
BABOQUIVARI 398.9	1. JESSE NAVARRO () 2. NED NORRIS, JR. (Leander Mase)	199.45 199.45	X X			
TOTAL		3,321.1	2,705.9	615.2	[01]	[02]