



**NOTTAWASEPPI HURON  
BAND OF THE POTAWATOMI**

A FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBAL GOVERNMENT

**NOTTAWASEPPI HURON BAND OF THE POTAWATOMI  
RESOLUTION NO. 06-16-22-08**

**A Resolution Supporting Michigan Senate Resolution 151 Urging the United States  
Department of the Interior to Approve the Petition of the Grand River Bands of  
Ottawa Indians for Federal Acknowledgment**

**WHEREAS:** On December 21, 1995, the Department of the Interior recognized the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi, as a federally recognized Indian Tribe pursuant to the Federal Acknowledgement Process (60 Fed. Reg. 66315);

**WHEREAS:** Article VI, Section 1(q) of the Tribe's Constitution establishes Tribal Council authority to adopt resolutions or statutes consistent with its inherent sovereignty;

**WHEREAS:** The Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians (GRBOI), the named successor-in-interest of the Grand River Ottawa People, has existed since time immemorial in Western Michigan along the Grand River in and around Muskegon and Grand Rapids;

**WHEREAS:** The GRBOI established a clear and documented sovereign government-to-government relationship with the United States that included the 1795 Treaty of Greenville, 1807 Treaty of Detroit, 1821 Treaty of Chicago, 1836 Treaty of Washington, and 1855 Treaty of Detroit;

**WHEREAS:** The GRBOI has maintained its uninterrupted existence as a sovereign nation, governing its citizens, through: membership perpetuation; GRBOI tribal council meetings to decide governmental matters; provision of social welfare benefits to promote the health, welfare, and safety of its tribal citizens; traditional gatherings and cultural engagements specific to both GRBOI and Ottawa heritage; economic development efforts; and additional government-to-government relationships with other Michigan tribes, the State of Michigan, and the City of Grand Rapids for legislation, consultation, and involvement;

**WHEREAS:** The GRBOI has been seeking federal reaffirmation of its sovereignty for three decades, with the designation of "active consideration" since 2013 with a brief suspension due to the COVID-19 Pandemic;

**WHEREAS:** Federal reaffirmation would ensure, among other things, the GRBOI's citizens receive healthcare, housing, education assistance, and the right to more fully govern itself, consistent with the Federal government's trust responsibility to those tribal nations it engaged with on a government-to-government level, including by way of the negotiated treaties and enumerated promises that unequivocally included the GRBOI;

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T.C. RESOLUTION NO. 06-16-22-08  
RESOLUTION SUPPORTING MICHIGAN SENATE RESOLUTION 151  
APPROVED BY TRIBAL COUNCIL: JUNE 16, 2022

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**WHEREAS:** Michigan Senators Huizenga, Hollier, Johnson, Victory, Brinks, Chang, Ananich, Outman, MacDonald, Irwin, VanderWall and Schmidt (Michigan Senators) introduced Resolution 151 to "urge the United States Department of the Interior to Approve the petition of the Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians for federal acknowledgment" and to provide "copies of this resolution. . . to the Governor, the United States Secretary of the Interior, and the Director of the United States Office of Federal Acknowledgement";

**WHEREAS:** Tribal Council desires to stand with GRBOI in attaining the reaffirmation of its conclusive status as a sovereign native nation; and

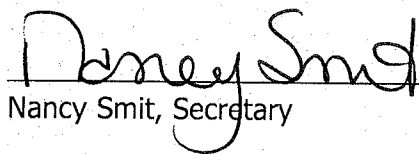
**WHEREAS:** Tribal Council unconditionally agrees with the effort extended by the Michigan Senators in passing a resolution to urge the important and overdue reaffirmation of GRBOI.

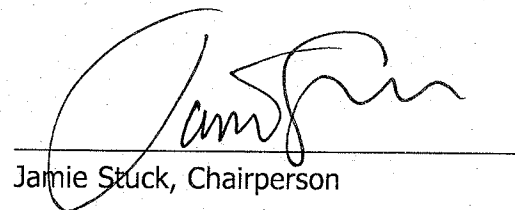
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Tribal Council hereby supports Michigan Senate Resolution No. 151, attached as Exhibit 1.

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**CERTIFICATION**

On June 16, 2022, this resolution was approved at a duly called regular meeting of the Tribal Council held at the Pine Creek Indian Reservation, a quorum being present, by an affirmative vote 5 members, 0 opposing, 0 absent, and 0 abstaining, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of June 2022.

  
Nancy Smit, Secretary

  
Jamie Stuck, Chairperson

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Signed by [Signature]  
Date 06/16/2022

## SENATE RESOLUTION NO.151

Senators Huizenga, Hollier, Johnson, Victory, Brinks, Chang, Ananich, Outman, MacDonald, Irwin, VanderWall and Schmidt offered the following resolution:

1           A resolution to urge the United States Department of Interior  
2 to approve the petition of the Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians  
3 for federal acknowledgement.

4           Whereas, The Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians (GRBOI), are  
5 the political successor-in-interest of the Grand River Ottawa  
6 People that first established a sovereign-to-sovereign relationship  
7 with the United States in a series of treaties: the 1795 Treaty of  
8 Greenville, the 1807 Treaty of Detroit, the 1821 Treaty of Chicago,  
9 and the 1836 Treaty of Washington. This relationship was further  
10 strengthened by the 1855 Treaty of Detroit, which recognized the  
11 ancestral homelands of the GRBOI people located in western

1 Michigan, including areas north of the Grand River in and around  
2 Muskegon and Grand Rapids; and

3       Whereas, The GRBOI have a well-defined social community in  
4 western Michigan, connected by extensive kinship since first  
5 sustained contact with Europeans. The GRBOI maintained significant  
6 marriage rates between members of the GRBOI, over 50 percent, until  
7 the 1920s and with members of other closely related tribes from  
8 Michigan into the late 1930s; and

9       Whereas, The members of the GRBOI share long-standing social  
10 activities involving most of the GRBOI through powwows, Kateri  
11 Circles, spring and fall celebrations, and Ghost Suppers. These  
12 activities are rooted firmly in the historical tradition and  
13 circumstances of social interaction and political activity among  
14 Anishinaabek communities in Michigan, particularly urban tribes  
15 like the GRBOI; and

16       Whereas, The GRBOI have provided important social welfare  
17 programs for its members and other urban tribes in southern  
18 Michigan. These programs involve significant interaction and  
19 support from and to several federally recognized tribes in the  
20 area. These tribal interactions provide significant evidence of the  
21 maintenance of both community and politics for the GRBOI; and

22       Whereas, The GRBOI has been seeking federal recognition for  
23 three decades. The GRBOI's request has been on the "active  
24 consideration" list since 2013. Without federal recognition,  
25 members are denied their rights to healthcare, housing, and  
26 education assistance, among others, through resources that are  
27 provided only to federally recognized tribes; therefore, be it

28       Resolved by the Senate, That we urge the United States  
29 Department of Interior to approve the petition of the Grand River

1 Bands of Ottawa Indians for federal acknowledgement; and be it  
2 further

3 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the  
4 Governor, the United States Secretary of the Interior, and the  
5 Director of the United States Office of Federal Acknowledgement.