KIOWA TRIBE

P.O. Box 369 · Carnegie, Oklahoma · 73015
Phone: (580) 654-2300 · Fax: (580) 654-1788
OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATURE

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE LEGISLATURE THAT THE TRIBE SHOULD RECOMMENCE EFFORTS TO SEEK ACCOUNTABILITY FOR ALLEGED SEX-RELATED OFFENSES AT KIOWA CASINOS
SUBJECT TO TRIBE LAW

WHEREAS, the Kiowa Tribe is a sovereign nation and has been so since time immemorial; and,

WHEREAS, the Tribe exercises full enjoyment of the inherent powers of government, including self-determination and autonomy over internal affairs encompassing Tribe citizens, lands, and resources; and,

WHEREAS, on April 17, 2017, qualified voters of the Tribe ratified the Kiowa Constitution as "the supreme law of the land"; and,

WHEREAS, the Kiowa Legislature is vested with the authority to pass laws and resolutions pursuant to Article VI, Section 6(a) of same Constitution; and,

WHEREAS, the protection of the Kiowa People – and principally of Cauigu women, youth, elders, and the innately vulnerable – against peril originating external to the Tribe is a cardinal moral imperative of the Kiowa government; and,

WHEREAS, an even weightier onus rests upon the collective shoulders of government leadership to safeguard against threats internal to the Tribe and/or its economic enterprises, as well as to ensure maximum legal accountability whenever substantial or systemic harm is effectuated upon Kiowa citizens; and,

WHEREAS, to the best understanding of the Legislature, a protracted history of operational dysfunction under the umbrella of Kiowa Casinos has included allegations in recent years of sexual assault by more than half a dozen women against its former Chief Operating Officer; and,

WHEREAS, an investigation into same allegations was launched during the tenure of Kiowa Tribe Member Richard McMahon as Chairman of the Kiowa Casino Operations Authority Board of Directors; and,

WHEREAS, the inquiry was conducted by counsel from the law firm Barnes & Thornburg LLP and yielded an expansive portfolio of witness interviews; and,

WHEREAS, per information and belief, Lawrence SpottedBird, former Chairman of the Tribe, declined the opportunity for contracted counsel to present compiled evidence for possible pursuit of criminal prosecution to the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma; and,

Posted on the Kiowa Tribe Website: November 12, 2026. Read into record by: Tiya Rosario, District 5, on Legislative Regular Session CXV-(115), November 14, 2026

WHEREAS, Chairman SpottedBird instead directed assumption of management over the foregoing allegations by the Tribe Prosecutor he had appointed to office; and,

WHEREAS, no proceedings arising from same allegations of sexual assault have been initiated to date in either the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma or in the Trial Court of the Kiowa Tribe; and,

WHEREAS, while Mr. McMahon and Susan Ekiss Dunlap, former KCOA Board Trustee, have both alluded to complaints of sexual misconduct amid online social media discourse, no substantive follow-up action has ever been undertaken, to the best knowledge of the Legislature, by the KCOA Board after the Barnes & Thornburg probe; and,

WHEREAS, data compiled by the National Institute of Justice and the National Congress of American Indians reflects that more than 56% of American Indian and Alaska Native women have survived some iteration of sexual violence in their respective lifetimes; and,

WHEREAS, the legacy of sexual abuse and violation with which AI/NA communities contend has historically been exacerbated by structural injustice and jurisdictional gaps vis-à-vis crimes committed by non-Indians on tribal territory; and,

WHEREAS, the blight of sexual violence therefore represents nothing less than an existential hazard for tribal nations; and,

WHEREAS, the Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction established and then expanded by the Congressional reauthorizations of the Violence Against Women Act in 2013 and 2022 both remedies a jurisprudential framework of institutional oppression for tribal nations and perpetuates paternalistic colonial machinery; and,

WHEREAS, sovereignty cannot be authentically actualized without fulfillment of a Tribe's ethical obligation to combat sexual violence perpetrated by citizens and non-citizens alike.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Kiowa Legislature, having been delegated certain authorities under the Kiowa Constitution, hereby calls upon the Tribe to resume formal pursuit of justice on behalf of the self-identified victims of the sexual crimes allegedly committed by the former Chief Operating Officer of Kiowa Casinos.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

The foregoing resolution KL-CY-2026-0XX, was duly voted upon by the Kiowa Legislature on _____, at a Regular Session _____ () with a vote of () in favor and () opposed, () abstain, and () absent, pursuant to the authority vested in the Legislature by the Constitution of the Kiowa Tribe.

_____
Michael Q. Primus II
Speaker of the Legislature

Posted on the Kiowa Tribe Website: November 12, 2026. Read into record by: Tiya Rosario, District 5, on Legislative Regular Session CXV-(115), November 14, 2026.

LEGISLATURE - RESOLUTION NO. KL-CY-2026-0XX:

SPONSOR: Tiya Rosario, District 5
CO-SPONSOR(S):

LEGISLATORS	**YES** **Hàu**	**NO** **Hàu:né**	**ABSTAIN** **Háun á**	**ABSENT** **Héñgyádàu**
Ronnie Satepauhoodle District 1				
Michael Primus District 2				
Jolene Beartrack District 3				
Cole Kickingbird-DeLaune District 4				
Tiya Rosario District 5				
Ben Wolf District 6				
Warren Queton District 7				

DELIVERY OF THE RESOLUTION AND LAW TO THE CHAIRMAN

Resolution No. **KL-CY-2026-0XX** was presented to the Chairman of the Kiowa Tribe on the **30th** day of **_____**, **2026**, pursuant to the Article VI, Section 8(a)(iv) of the Constitution of the Kiowa Tribe and will become effective after signature by the Chairman or veto override by the Legislature, and as otherwise required by the Constitution.

_____
Michael Q. Primus II
Speaker of the Legislature

Posted on the Kiowa Tribe Website: November 12, 2026. Read into record by: Tiya Rosario, District 5, on Legislative Regular Session CXV-(115), November 14, 2026.

CHAIRMAN'S ACTION:

[ ] APPROVED

[ ] VETO - RETURNED TO LEGISLATURE WITH EXPLANATION:

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
__

On this ___ day of _____, 2026.

_____
David B. Sullivan
Chairman of the Kiowa Tribe

Presented by the Vice-Chairman to the Legislature on the ____ day of _____, 2026.

LEGISLATURE'S ACTION:

Override of Chairman's veto:

[ ] YES

[ ] NO

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

The foregoing resolution KLO-CY-2026-XXX was duly voted upon by the Legislature on _____, 2026, at a Legislative Order Session with a vote of _____ in favor and _____opposed, and _____ abstaining, and _____absent. Pursuant to the authority vested in the Legislature by the Constitution of the Kiowa Tribe.

_____

Michael Q. Primus II
Speaker of the Legislature

Legislative Order KLO-CY-2026-0XX

LEGISLATORS	**YES** **Hàu**	**NO** **Hàu:né**	**ABSTAIN** **Háun á**	**ABSENT** **Héñgyádàu**
Ronnie Satepauhoodle District 1				
Michael Primus District 2				
Jolene Beartrack District 3				
Cole Kickingbird-DeLaune District 4				
Tiya Rosario District 5				
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