



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
Tribal Council**

2608 Government Center Drive  
Manistee, MI 49660  
(231) 723-8288

**Resolution #22-0803-143**

*Resolution Authorizing Little River Bands of Ottawa Indians as Signatory of the Brief of Amicus Curiae in Support of Deb Haaland, et. al. in Haaland v. Brackeen*

WHEREAS, the status of the *Gaá Čhíng Ziibi Daáwaa Aníshinaábek* (Little River Band of Ottawa Indians) as a sovereign and Treaty-making power is confirmed in numerous treaties, from agreements with the initial colonial powers on this land, to various treaties with the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians (Tribe) is descended from, and is the political successor to, the Grand River Ottawa Bands, signatories of the 1836 Treaty of Washington (7 Stat. 491) with the United States, as reaffirmed by federal law in P.L. 103-324, enacted in 1994; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe adopted a new Constitution, pursuant to a vote of the membership on May 27, 1998, which Constitution became effective upon its approval by the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs on July 10, 1998; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe adopted amendments to the Constitution on April 26, 2004, which became effective upon approval by the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs on May 13, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe adopted amendments to the Constitution on July 11, 2016 which became effective upon approval by the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs on August 24, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is authorized under Article IV, Section 7(a) of the Constitution to provide for the public health, peace, morals and education and general welfare of the Little River Band and its members; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of the United States of America will hear the case of *Haaland v. Brackeen* in August of 2022; and

WHEREAS, the case before the Supreme Court is challenging the vital protections afforded by the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA); and

WHEREAS, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians operate and provide direct child welfare services to the members of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, ICWA is considered the gold standard for providing services and legal rights to Indian children, parents, and Tribes in response to the nationwide crisis of removing Indian children by the state and private welfare agencies as passed by Congress in 1978; and

WHEREAS, prior to the enactment of ICWA, States frequently disregarded tribal family practices, tribal sovereignty, and due process in the removal and placement of Indian children; and

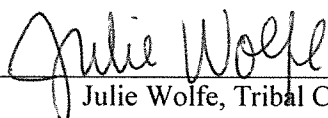
WHEREAS, it is in the Little River Band of Ottawa Indian's interests to support the constitutionality of ICWA because ICWA's protections for Indian children appropriately further the inherent sovereign powers of tribes to determine their membership; and

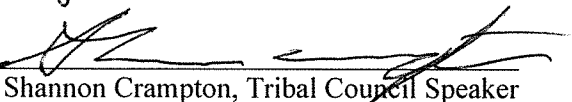
WHEREAS, the ICWA provides invaluable protections to the most vulnerable tribal members of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED, that the Tribal Council hereby authorizes Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, through the Legal Counsel, to be as signatory of the Brief of Amicus Curiae in Support of Deb Haaland, et. al. in the matter *Haaland v. Brackeen*.

**CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION**

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and adopted by the Tribal Council with 8 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 1 ABSTAINING, and 0 ABSENT, at an Emergency Open Session of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council held on August 3, 2022, via ZOOM, with a quorum being present for such vote.

  
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Julie Wolfe, Tribal Council Recorder

  
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Shannon Crampton, Tribal Council Speaker

cc: Council Records  
Tribal Ogema  
Unified Legal