

A COUNCIL BILL AMENDING THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES ACT

IN THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CHOCTAW NATION

EDDIE BOHANAN INTRODUCED THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL BILL

A COUNCIL BILL

TO AMEND the Legislative Committees Act by adding Section 6.

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 4 of the Constitution of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma (the "Nation") provides that the Tribal Council (the "Council") shall enact legislation, rules and regulations not inconsistent with the Constitution for the general good of the Choctaw Nation and for the administration and regulation of the affairs of the Choctaw Nation;

WHEREAS, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma is a sovereign nation which enjoys the inherent right to make its laws and to be governed by those laws;

WHEREAS, this bill amends the Legislative Committees Act by adding Section 6 Legislative Bill Review Process;

WHEREAS, the purpose of the amendments contained in this Council Bill is to make additions to the Legislative Committees Act by providing the Tribal Council with a formal bill review process;

WHEREAS, the Council recognizes, among other things, its obligations to: make decisions pertaining to the acquisition, leasing, disposition and management of tribal property; prescribe election procedures and regulation for tribal elections; act upon appointments requiring Council confirmation; approve the budget, consider legislation proposed by the Chief and Assistant Chief; prescribe the rules of procedure for Tribal Court, and carryout the legislative authority of the Nation;

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council recognizes the need to evolve and reorganization to the legislative process so that the Council may best carry out its Privileges, Duties and Powers vested in it by the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council finds it in the best interest of the Nation to amend the Legislative Committees Act of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma that this Bill be cited as amending the Legislative Committees Act, by adding Section 6 which shall read as follows:

Section 6. Legislative Bill Review Process

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- A. Twenty-one (21) days prior to the upcoming Tribal Council meeting:
1. Proposed bills will be provided to the Secretary of the appropriate Standing Committee, who will provide the bills and other information and documents accompanying them to the Chairperson of the appropriate Standing Committee. The Chairperson will distribute these materials to members of the appropriate Standing Committee and/or sub-committee.
- B. Within forty-eight (48) hours after receipt of bills by the Chairperson of the appropriate Standing Committee:
1. Whenever the appropriate Standing Committee or sub-committee needs additional information, documents, or records, committee members will notify the Chairperson, and the Chairperson will request such information or documents from the Assistant Chief, unless otherwise provided by the Chief.
 - a. The Chairperson's request should specifically state what the committee is requesting and give the Assistant Chief a reasonable time to respond.
 2. If a committee member or members believe the committee needs an individual from the appropriate department or subdepartment of the Nation to attend a committee meeting to offer insight into the bill's subject matter or answer questions, the committee member(s) should notify the Chairperson. The Chairperson will then request that someone from the appropriate department or subdepartment of the Nation attend the committee meeting.
 - a. The Chairperson will make this request through the Office of the Assistant Chief, and the request must include the committee meeting agenda and the topics for discussion. Additionally, if possible, the Chairperson should include the proposed date of the committee meeting and request alternative dates the department or subdepartment member can attend.
- C. Committee Meeting Prior to Committee as a Whole:
1. The Chairperson, with the consent of the majority of the Standing Committee, shall schedule a meeting of the appropriate Standing Committee or sub-committee and provide notice to non-committee members that shall attend.
 - a. The Chairperson shall preside over these meetings and provide recommendations from these committee meetings to the Tribal Council.
- D. Recommendations at Committee as a Whole:

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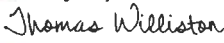
1. The reporting member of the appropriate Standing Committee will present the report of recommendations to any proposed bill at the Committee of the Whole immediate preceding Regular Session for consideration.
 - a. If it is impractical to bring committee members together for a meeting, the report of the committee can contain what has been agreed to by every one of its members.
- E. Failure to Follow Section 6:
1. A Council Bill which is voted on by Council at Regular Session is not invalid because it was not submitted pursuant to this Section. The Tribal Council, at Regular Sessions and Special Sessions, reserves the right to consider any measure at its discretion.
 2. When necessary, Chief or his designee, can submit a bill to Council for consideration following consultation with the Speaker of Tribal Council. Late submission should be reserved only for those bills which are required to prevent a detriment or to allow the Nation to act quickly when necessary.

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma that this Bill be cited as approval that these amendments shall be codified by the Senior Executive Official for Legal and Compliance pursuant to the Codification Authorization Act in Title 125.

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma that this Bill be cited as approval that these amendments to the Legislative Committees Act become effective immediately.

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as speaker of the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of twelve (12) seats. Eight (8) members must be present to constitute a quorum. I further certify that twelve (12) members answered roll call and that a quorum was present at the Regular Session of the Tribal Council at Tuskahoma, Oklahoma on January 11, 2025. I further certify that the foregoing Council Bill CB- 26 -25 was adopted at such meeting by the affirmative vote of twelve (12) members, zero (0) negative votes, and zero (0) abstaining.

DocuSigned by:

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Thomas Williston, Speaker
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council

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Ronald Perry, Secretary
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council



Gary Battori, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Date 1-15-25

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Purpose/Need of Council Bill: This Bill amends the Legislative Committees Act by adding Section 6. The amendments and additions contained in this bill provide a process for the Tribal Council to receive proposed legislative bills with sufficient time to review prior to Committee as a Whole and Tribal Council meetings. The amendments and additions also provide Tribal Council with an established process for obtaining additional information, documents, or resources needed to inform their decisions on the proposed bills. This Council Bill assists the Council to best carry out its Privileges, Duties and Powers vested in it by the Constitution.

Title of Council Bill: **A COUNCIL BILL AMENDING THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES ACT**

Agency: Legislative

Budget: N/A

Match Required: N/A

Request by Project Director: Tribal Council