WHEREAS, the Oneida Nation is a federally recognized Indian government and a treaty tribe recognized by the laws of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the Oneida General Tribal Council is the governing body of the Oneida Nation; and

WHEREAS, the Oneida Business Committee has been delegated the authority of Article IV, Section 1, of the Oneida Tribal Constitution by the Oneida General Tribal Council; and

WHEREAS, the Children’s Burial Fund Policy (“the Law”) was adopted by the Oneida Business Committee on an emergency basis through BC-09-23-09-F and then permanently through resolution BC-02-10-10-B; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Law is to provide financial assistance towards the funeral costs of children of a certain age who are not enrolled, but are eligible for enrollment, in the Nation; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Operating Committee worked collaboratively with representatives from the Nation’s Oneida Trust Enrollment Department to develop the amendments to this Law; and

WHEREAS, the amendments to the Law revise the eligibility qualifications for assistance from the Children’s Burial Fund; and

WHEREAS, the amendments to the Law add the requirement that a person provide the Oneida Trust Enrollment Department with any other relevant documentation as requested by the Department to support the eligibility of enrollment of the deceased child; and

WHEREAS, the amendments to the Law allow the Children’s Burial Fund to be used for any funeral related expenses as identified as an invoice, thus eliminating any specific requirements as to what types of expenses the Children’s Burial Fund could be used for or caps on the use of the Children’s Burial Fund for certain types of expenses; and

WHEREAS, the amendments to the Law prohibit the use of the Children’s Burial Fund for travel and/or lodging to attend a funeral; and

WHEREAS, the amendments to the Law allow appeals of the Oneida Trust Enrollment Department’s decision as to the eligibility of a deceased child for financial assistance from the Children’s Burial Fund to be made to the Oneida Trust Enrollment Committee; and

WHEREAS, the amendments to the Law make other minor drafting revisions to revise and reorganize the Law to increase clarity; and
WHEREAS, in accordance with the Legislative Procedures Act a legislative analysis and fiscal impact statement were completed for the amendments to the Law; and

WHEREAS, a public meeting on the proposed amendments to this Law was held on February 13, 2020, in accordance with the Legislative Procedures Act, and the public comment period was held open until February 20, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Operating Committee accepted, reviewed, and considered the public comments received on March 4, 2020; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the amendments to the Children’s Burial Fund Policy are hereby adopted and shall be effective on May 6, 2020.

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Oneida Business Committee, hereby certify that the Oneida Business Committee is composed of 9 members of whom 5 members constitute a quorum; 9 members were present at a meeting duly called, noticed and held on the 22nd day of April, 2020; that the forgoing resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by a vote of 8 members for, 0 members against, and 0 members not voting*; and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Lisa Summers, Secretary
Oneida Business Committee

*According to the By-Laws, Article I, Section 1, the Chair votes "only in the case of a tie."