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 purpose of the Elder Assistance Program law (“the Law”) is to establish the Elder Assistance Program to govern how the Nation provides financial assistance to elders, pursuant to the Oneida General Welfare law; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Nation to prioritize the general welfare needs of its elders and recognize that its elders possess unique and irreplaceable stores of knowledge, skill, culture, and experience that enhance and enrich the lives of every member of the Nation; and

WHEREAS, the interests of the Nation are advanced when its elders remain confident that their general welfare needs can be met; and

WHEREAS, the Law establishes the Elder Assistance Program as an approved program of the Nation in accordance with the Oneida General Welfare law; and

WHEREAS, the Law provides how this program qualifies for general welfare exclusion; and

WHEREAS, the Law provides the eligibility requirements for accessing assistance from the Elder Assistance Program – which is that a person is a member of the Nation, age sixty-five (65) or older, and submits a completed application during the designated submission timeframe; and

WHEREAS, the Law provides the minimum requirements for the information that must be included on the application; and

WHEREAS, the Law provides that the Oneida Business Committee, in consultation with the Oneida Trust Enrollment Committee, shall set forth through the adoption of a resolution an application submission period and disbursement timeframe for a distribution of assistance from the Elder Assistance Program; and

WHEREAS, the Law provides for the types of expenses that shall be considered qualifying expenditures for use of assistance from Elder Assistance Program by the recipient; and
WHEREAS, the Law provides information on the funding source of the Elder Assistance Program and that the Oneida Trust Enrollment Committee shall determine the amount of assistance available to an eligible recipient from the Elder Assistance Program per any permitted distribution; and

WHEREAS, the Law provides that the Trust Enrollment Department is the department that has the responsibilities to administer the Elder Assistance Program; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Legislative Procedures Act a legislative analysis and fiscal impact statement were developed for this Law; and

WHEREAS, a public meeting on this proposed Law was held on May 18, 2022, and the public comment period was held open until May 25, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Operating Committee accepted, reviewed, and considered all public comments received on June 1, 2022; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Elder Assistance Program law is hereby adopted and shall be effective immediately.

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; 7 members were present at a meeting duly called, noticed and held on the 13th day of July, 2022; that the forgoing resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by a vote of 6 members for, 0 members against, and 0 members not voting*; and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Lisa Liggins, Secretary
Oneida Business Committee

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