

TRIBAL COUNCIL ACT 2.4

AN ACT RELATING TO

TRIBAL CENSUS

BE IT ENACTED BY THE SNOQUALMIE TRIBAL COUNCIL

SECTION 1.0 TITLE AND CODIFICATION

This Act shall be known as the Snoqualmie Tribal Census Act and shall be codified as Title 2, Chapter 4 of the Snoqualmie Tribal Code.

SECTION 2.0 STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The aboriginal and inherent sovereign power to govern the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe is vested in the Snoqualmie Tribal Council. The Snoqualmie Tribal Council has the authority to safeguard and promote the peace, safety, moral, and general welfare of the members of the Tribe by regulating the behavior of all persons within the jurisdiction of the Tribe, and by providing for the enactment and enforcement of the laws of the Tribe. Snoqualmie Indian Tribe Constitution Article VIII, Section 1 (e), (f), (j), (o), (p), and (v).

SECTION 3.0 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Tribal Council finds that the Tribe has a duty and obligation to all its members and to the Tribe itself to protect and preserve its sovereignty, the political integrity, economic security, health and welfare of the Tribe. Effective policymaking to address the challenges of improving the socioeconomic status and overall well-being of the Snoqualmie people depends on accurate and reliable data. Effective and meaningful data collection from Tribal members is, therefore, essential for the Tribe to provide civic and economic benefits to Tribal members.

Native people have been historically excluded from data collection and repeatedly undercounted as part of the United States Census. The Tribal Council views proper data collection and evaluation as Tribal values, so that the Tribe can decolonize data collection and use the information learned to improve the health and welfare of the Tribe and its members.

SECTION 4.0 DEFINITIONS

Unless the context specifically requires otherwise, as used in this Title:

“Respondent” shall mean any enrolled Snoqualmie Tribal member who reports information in response to a questionnaire, inquiry, or other request of the Secretary.

“Secretary” shall mean the Secretary of the Tribal Council.

“Tribal Council” shall mean the duly authorized governing body of the Tribe.

“Tribe” or **“Tribal”** shall mean the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe.

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SECTION 5.0 DATA COLLECTION

- (a) The Secretary and/or their designee(s) shall prepare questionnaires, and shall determine the inquiries, and the number, form, and subdivisions thereof, for the statistics, surveys, and censuses provided for in this Title.
- (b) The Secretary and/or their designee(s) shall gather population, economic and housing data, as well as other information relating to such topics as necessary to fulfill the purposes of the Title.
- (c) The Secretary and/or their designee(s) shall, after the receipt of questionnaires from respondents, compile the data collected into a census document for the Tribal Council's review and consideration.

SECTION 6.0 TIMING

The Secretary and/or their designee(s) shall prepare questionnaires and send such questionnaires to respondents at their last known address on file with the Tribe in the year 2024 and then every ten (10) years thereafter.

SECTION 7.0 CONFIDENTIALITY

The information provided by a respondent on a questionnaire shall be deemed confidential and shall not be subject to disclosure under the Tribe's Public Records Act. Any data collected, including any personally identifiable information ("PII"), shall be kept strictly confidential and shall not be disclosed.

SECTION 8.0 SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY

The Tribe specifically and unequivocally declares its sovereign immunity and does not waive its sovereign immunity, expressly or impliedly, under any provision of this Chapter, and nothing in this Chapter shall be construed as waiving the sovereign immunity of the Tribe or any of its agencies, departments, officials, agents or employees.

SECTION 9.0 CONSTRUCTION

This Title shall be liberally construed in favor of the Tribe so as to effectuate the purposes hereof, and shall not be deemed a limitation or repeal of any other Tribal power or authority.

SECTION 10.0 SEVERABILITY

If any section, provision, phrase, addition, word, sentence or amendment of this Title or its application to any person is held invalid by a final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions or application of this Title that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Title are declared severable.

SECTION 11.0 EFFECTIVE DATE

This Title shall take effect immediately upon adoption by the Tribal Council, and shall supersede and replace any and all prior ordinances of the Tribe relating to the subject matter of this Title.

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ENACTED BY THE SNOQUALMIE TRIBAL COUNCIL ON THE 9TH DAY OF MARCH 2023 IN SESSION DULY MET, WITH 7 FOR, 0 AGAINST, AND 0 ABSTAINING, VIA RESOLUTION NO. 46-2023.

CODIFIED BY THE SNOQUALMIE TRIBAL SECRETARY ON THE 9TH DAY OF MARCH 2023.


TRIBAL SECRETARY, SHAUNA SHIPP-MARTINEZ