CONSTITUTION OF

THE UNITED HOUMA NATION, INC.

PREAMBLE

Recognizing the principals that as time goes on, new conditions and problems arise, we, THE HOUMA TRIBE, INC. and THE HOUMA ALLIANCE, INC., being duly consolidated as one organization to be known as THE UNITED HOUMA NATION, INC., desiring to establish an organization for our common welfare and benefit, have earnestly and seriously written into this Constitution and By-Laws rules which best adapt themselves to our present and future condition that will:

(a) Promote the fair interest of our fellow tribesmen;

(b) Reaffirm and declare certain fundamental truths, and

(c) Finally, uphold the dignity and honor of all our fellow tribesmen.

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be THE UNITED HOUMA NATION, INC.

ARTICLE II - JURISDICTION

The jurisdiction shall extend to any parish where any Houma Indian may reside and particularly to any lands hereafter acquired by or for the Houma Indians as tribal assets.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 (A) Criteria.

All persons:

(1) who can trace descendency from a list of known Houma Indian ancestors as identified by tribal resolution duly approved by the United Houma Nation Tribal Council, and (2) who reside in the state of Louisiana,

or (3) who are known to the members of the United Houma Nation Tribal Council or its delagatees, and who identify with the Houma Tribe, shall be eligible for membership.

Section 1 (B) Membership

Persons seeking membership must meet the criteria stated in Article III, Section 1 of this constitution and must apply to and be approved by the United Houma Nation Tribal Council or its delagatees. The burden of proof to establish eligibility for membership rests with the applicant.

Section 2

The United Houma Nation Tribal Council shall be empowered to establish rules regarding the enrollment of its members and the loss of membership.

Section 3

This article ammends the United Houma Nation Constitution and any part inconsistent herewith is hereby revoked.

ARTICLE IV - GOVERNING BODY

Section 1 - Governing body of the United Houma Nation, Inc. shall be a Tribal Council which shall be elected every two years (2 years) by secret ballot by the qualified voters of the tribal organization. There shall be fourteen (14) members on the Council. The following communities shall be entitled to elect members to represent their respective parish: Terrebonne five (5), Lafourche three (3), Jefferson three (3), St. Mary two (2), and St. Bernard one (1); however, other parishes may be included if necessary, except that the interim board shall consist of 12 members who will serve until the first fourteen (14) member Tribal Council shall be elected.

ARTICLE V DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1 - The chairperson shall preside over all meetings of the Council, shall act as the official spokesman for the tribe on matters specifically authorized, shall engage in public relations and serve as coordinator of overall activities, and exercise any authority delegated to him or her by the Tribal Council. The chairperson shall not vote on the Council except in case of a tie vote. The chairperson shall not succeed himself or herself for more than two (2) consecutive terms or no chairperson shall serve more than eight (8) years. The ex-chairperson shall then serve as exofficio member (with no voting powers) on the Tribal Council.

Section 2 - The vice-chairperson shall assist the chairperson when called upon to do so and in the absence of the chairperson shall preside. When so presiding the vice-chairperson shall have all rights, privileges and duties as well as the responsibilities of the chairperson. The vice-chairperson will be on duty in the absence of the chairperson.

Section 3 - The secretary of the Council shall conduct all Tribal correspondence and shall keep an accurate record of all matters transacted at Council meetings.

Section 4 - The treasurer shall accept, receipt for, preserve and safeguard all Tribal funds or special funds for which the Council is acting as trustee or custodian. The treasurer shall deposit all funds in such properly insured depositories as the Council shall direct and shall make or preserve a faithful record of such funds, and shall report on all receipts and expenditures and the amount and nature of all funds in their possession and custody at each regular meeting of the Tribal Council, also at the regular Tribal meetings. An audit of accounts shall be made once a year and at such other times as the Tribal Council may require.

All checks of this Council will be handled according to current accounting procedure manual approved by the Tribal Council.

The treasurer shall be required to give satisfactory bond to the Council, such bond being paid for from the Tribal funds.

ARTICLE VI - COMMITTEES

Section 1 - The duties of all committees, and their officers appointed by the Tribal Council shall be clearly defined by resolution of the Council at the time of their creation or appointment. Such committees, and their officers shall report to the Council from time to time as required and their activities and decisions shall be subject to review by the Tribal Council.

ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS

Section 1 - The Tribal Council shall have the power to determine time and place regular meetings shall be held; the chairperson shall have the power to call a special meeting of the Tribal Council, for the purpose of transacting any business designated in the call or as prescribed in the by-laws.

Section 2 - A majority of the members of the Tribal Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of tribal business.

Section 3 - The Tribal Council in the conduct of its business shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order as revised by the Tribal Council.

ARTICLE VIII - ELECTIONS

Section 1 - Any member, male or female, eighteen (18) years of age or more and registered with the Tribal organization is eligible to vote.

Section 2 - The Tribal Council shall prescribe rules and regulations governing Tribal elections. The Tribal Council shall appoint commissioners to conduct voting in their respective community. It shall be the duty of

each commissioner to see that all voters must sign the ledger before casting their ballot and that all members must register and vote in his own district.

Section 3 - The present Tribal councilmen shall remain in office until their successors are duly elected and seated. The first regular election under this constitution and by-laws shall be held on the 27th day of June, 1981. On the second Saturday following the date of election, there shall be a special meeting for installation of officers. The regular meetings thereafter shall be held monthly. Elections shall be held on the first Saturday of June each year. Seven Tribal Council members shall be elected on even numbered years and seven (7) Tribal councilmen shall be elected in odd numbered years.

Articles of Incorporation

The corporate power and management of this corporation shall be vested in, and exercised by, a Tribal Council of fourteen (14) members, to be elected annually, at a general meeting of the members, on June 27, beginning with the year 1981, to be held at the registered office of the corporation, or at such other place within the State of Louisiana, as may be provided in the by-laws.

Section 4 - Any registered member of the United Houma Nation, Inc. who is 18 years of age, and has not been convicted of a felony five years prior to the time of consideration will be eligible for election to the Tribal Council.

ARTICLE IX - VACANCIES & REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Section 1 - If any vacancy occurs in the membership of the Tribal Council, it shall be the duty of the chairperson of the United Houma Nation, Inc. to fill such vacancy by appointing a member from the community in which such a vacancy occurs and such appointee shall hold office until his successor is duly elected by voters of such community either at a special election or a regular election, subject to approval of the Tribal Council.

Section 2 - If a vacancy occurs in the office of the chairperson, then such position shall be filled by vice-chairperson until this term expires. The vice-chairperson's position shall then be filled by Council appointment for the remainder of the term.

Section 3 - Any member of the Tribal Council or any appointed official of the United Houma Nation, Inc., during the term for which he is elected, is convicted of any felony, shall be given a review by the Tribal Council to determine whether or not he should remain in office. Such member shall be given a written statement of charges against him at least thirty (30) days before the meeting of the Tribal Council before which he is to appear and he shall be given an opportunity to answer any and all charges at the designated Council meeting. The decision of the Tribal Council shall be final.

Section 4 - Any of the four individual Indian communities or any other Indian community shich may necessarily be included, may petition for the recall of a Council member elected by the community. Upon receipt by the Tribal Council of a petition signed by thirty (30%) percent of the eligible voters from that community demanding recall of a member, and at least six (6) months prior to expiration of such member's term of office, it shall be the duty of the Tribal Council to call a special election in that community upon the question of recall. Such special election shall be called and held within a period of sixty (60) days after receipt of petition. No Council member may be recalled except by a majority vote in an election in which at least fifty (50) percent of the eligible voters in that community voted.

ARTICLE X - COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

Sectior 1 - It shall be the duty of the councilperson from each community to report regularly all the actions and decisions to the Tribal Council.

ARTICLE XI - POWERS OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL

Section 1 - Enumerated Powers. The Tribal Council of the United Houma Nation, Inc., shall have the following powers, subject to any limitations imposed by the laws or the Constitution of the United States, and the state of Louisiana.

(a) To negotiate with federal, state and local governments.

(b) To employ legal counsel, the choice of counsel and the determination of fees.

(c) To approve or veto any sale, disposition, lease or encumbrance of Tribal land, interests in land, Tribal funds, or other Tribal assets, except those lands in Terrebonne Parish donated by the Methodist Church for a reservation or Tribal center in Dulac, Louisiana.

(d) To appropriate any available Tribal funds for the benefit of the UNITED HOUMA NATION, INC.

(e) To supervise and manage Tribal economic affairs and enterprises in accordance with this constitution and by-laws.

(f) To pass and reinforce rules and regulations in accordance with applicable federal or state regulations, providing for the management of Tribal lands, including the making and revocation of assignments, disposition of timber, oil and mineral resources.

(g) To promote and protect health, peace, morals, education and the general welfare of the community and its members.

(h) To do such acts of a government and public nature as are not prohibited by applicable laws or by this constitution and by-laws.

(i) To establish and regulate subordinate organizations for social and business purposes.

(j) To pass ordinances and resolutions necessary or incidental to the exercise of any of the foregoing powers.

(k) To propose amendments to the constitution for referal to the people of the United Houma Nation, Inc. for ratification.

ARTICLE XII - RIGHTS

The protection guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States of America and the Constitution of the State of Louisiana shall not be amended.

ARTICLE XIII - INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM

Section 1 - Reserved powers - determination of percentages. The first power reserved by the members of the tribe is the initiative; and (15%) percent of regular voting members shall have the right to propose amendments to this constitution and to propose ordinances and resolutions.

Section 2 - The second power is the referendum which may be ordered upon petition signed by fifteen (15%) percent of the registered voters.

Section 3 - Petitions. An election on an initiative or referendum petition shall be called by the chairperson after ascertaining that a sufficient number of registered voters have signed.

Any measure referred to the Tribe by the initiative or by the referendum shall take effect and be in force when approved by a majority of the votes cast in such election in which at least thirty (30%) percent of the registered voters voted. All measures referred to the Tribe shall begin with the words: "Be it enacted by the Members of THE UNITED HOUMA NATION, INC."

ARTICLE XIV - AMENDMENTS

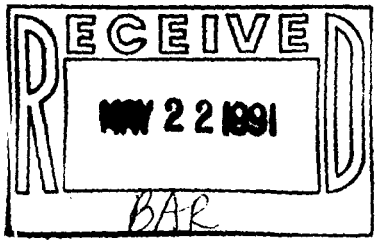
This constitution and by-laws may be amended by a majority vote of the qualified voters of the tribe voting at an election called for that purpose, providing that at least thirty (30%) percent of those entitled to vote shall vote in such election; but no amendment shall become effective until it shall have been approved as provided in Article XIII.

ARTICLE XV - RATIFICATION

The by-laws shall be declared adopted by the Tribal Council when passed by two-thirds (2/3) of the full membership of the Tribal Council present at a regular meeting, or special meeting called for this purpose.

These by-laws are approved by the United Houma Nation Tribal Council at a regular meeting held August 20, 1983.

Chairman
United Houma Nation
Tribal Council


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