



Legislative Code of Ethics and Undue Influence

In our CPN code of laws there exists a Legislative Branch Code (Title 5), that is a key part of the laws that govern our Nation's elected leadership.

Like with any ethical representative body, we have a constitution, and codes of conduct and laws that are designed to prevent corruption, nepotism, conflicts of interest, and undue influence for those who are in elected positions of power.

Let me elaborate and identify the current laws that prohibit an elected CPN lawmaker from personal and financial gain through their position.

- **Section 5-1-102 (A) - Disclosure Statement**

Every member of the legislature shall disclose any gift of value over \$50 dollars or any gift to a legislator as an individual or entity doing business with or attempting to do business with the CPN.

- **Section 5-1-103 (B) - Voting Abstention**

No member of the legislature shall knowingly vote on any legislation, e.g. Annual Operating Budget, in which the member has a financial interest (such as accepting donations from the tribal general fund, tribal businesses, or federal programs) or a financial interest in the legislator or employer that is actively advocating (i.e. HowNiKan articles, legislative columns, emails and CPN sponsored events) on the legislation when a legislator has ownership interest in a business, for profit or not-for-profit.

- **Section 5-1-104 (A) and (B) - Compensation**

CPN legislators are prohibited from receiving or agreeing to receive compensation from the CPN or a tribal member, notwithstanding campaign contributions. It is unlawful for any elected lawmaker of the CPN to directly solicit or encourage another lawmaker to make substantial yearly donations to another lawmaker's business endeavor. It is also unlawful for any member of the CPN legislature to accept anything of value or gift, donation, cash, etc. that exceeds \$200 dollars a year, notwithstanding campaign contributions.

- **Section 5-1-106 (A), (B), (C) - Improper Influence**

No member of the CPN legislature shall use their authority or the influence of their office to secure anything of value that would be construed as improper influence with respect to the legislator's duties. Equally of import, no member of the CPN legislature shall solicit or receive funds from any legislative agent.

- **Section 5-1-108 - Improper Inducement**

Any legislator's attempts to induce a member or employees of the CPN, e.g. asking tribal member employees for donations to a legislator's business, and that lawmaker accepting said donations, are acts that are in violation of the CPN Legislative Code of Ethics. It is also against our law to pay out tribal or federal funds from our Executive Branch to a member of the Legislature for their personal or for business gain. It is the duty of the Tribal Chairman to hold those involved with such activities accountable by using our court system to adjudicate and prosecute such matters.

In summary, one of the reasons I have decided to run for CPN Chairman, is because I would like to see a stronger representative body and leadership in our great nation. To accomplish this, we are going to need to be more transparent about our practices, and we are going to have to better honor our roles and positions as elected lawmakers of the CPN. I stand for enforcing and adhering to CPN laws that prevent undue influence and corruption.

I strongly encourage each of you to download the most up-to-date set of codes (2017) we use in our Legislature, and to study our laws and our Constitution. Then you will understand why I am adamant about constitutional reform, term limits, and more transparency in our practices.

By working together to identify, clarify, and root out these activities, we can make a better future for our great nation.

Always thinking Potawatomi,

- Lisa Kraft, running for CPN Chairman 2021