



# *Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians*

*Executive Branch of Tribal Government  
Office of the Chief Executive*

*Hand-delivered*

February 26, 2025

Sheldon Boyd, Speaker of the Assembly  
Carolyn Beaulieu, District I Representative  
Wendy Merrill, District II Representative  
Harry Davis, District III Representative

Re: Act 08-25

Dear Honorable Members of the Band Assembly:

Although I have signed Act 08-25 into law, I have a separate (but related) concern about our Child Protection Code's definition of "Controlled Substance." Specifically, 8 MLBS § 3103(l) defines the term as:

[A]ny drug or chemical whose manufacture, possession or use is regulated by the federal government as defined by the FDA. A Controlled Substance Analog is a chemical or drug whose chemical makeup is substantially similar to a controlled substance as defined in 21 U.S.C. § 813.

I am concerned that Band members within our Child Protection system may continue to face barriers to family reunification despite only testing positive for cannabinoids. To avoid these negative impacts, and to protect Band members who are complying with both Minnesota law and Title 23 of Band Statutes, I recommend that the Band Assembly revise 8 MLBS § 3103(l) in a manner similar to the following:

"Controlled Substance" is any drug or chemical whose manufacture, possession, or use is prohibited by Band law~~regulated by the federal government as defined by the FDA. A Controlled Substance Analog is a chemical or drug whose chemical makeup is substantially similar to a controlled substance as defined in 21 U.S.C. § 813.~~

Miigwech,

A blue ink signature of Virgil Wind, written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above the printed name and title.

Virgil Wind  
Chief Executive

**Letter from Chief Executive Virgil Wind to Band Assembly**

**Re: Act 08-25**

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CC:

Nicole Anderson, HHS Commissioner

Caleb Dogeagle, Solicitor General

Jared Miller, Legislative Counsel

Reen Reinhardt, Revisor of Statutes