



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians

Executive Branch of Tribal Government

Office of the Chief Executive

Via E-mail

September 18, 2024

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

Re: Act 51-24

Dear Honorable Members of the Band Assembly:

After much thought and consideration, I have reluctantly decided to sign Act 51-24 into law. The sole purpose for my hesitancy is that I have developed some concerns about the Payroll Budget Revision ("PBR") process.

The PBR process was originally put into place to be transparent when payroll exceeds the budgeted amount. The process requires Commissioners to submit a form to the Office of Management and Budget justifying which positions require additional funding. Although this form has proven helpful, it does not clearly demonstrate the total impact to the budget, including which budget lines are being reduced in order to accommodate the salary increases.

Because the PBR form originates in the Office of Management and Budget, I am requesting a meeting with the members of the Band Assembly and the Commissioner of Finance to make necessary amendments to the form. I would prefer to meet prior to September 30 so that we can begin the new fiscal year using an optimized form. **Please contact Deputy Assistant Darla Roache to schedule a meeting.**

Miigwech,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Virgil Wind", written over a horizontal line.

Virgil Wind
Chief Executive

CC:

Darcie Big Bear, Parliamentarian/Clerk of the Band Assembly
Jared Miller, Legislative Counsel
Mel Towle, Commissioner of Finance