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Speaker Mason is asking this Court to restore the legislative process as it is set out in the Osage Constitution, to restore the process that was approved by the people. He is asking this court to recognize the grab for power that is taking place, and to make a statement to the Osage People that the laws of the Osage Nation have meaning, that they will be enforced and that no matter your position in the government, the law applies to you. The Osage Nation Congress adheres to a rigorous procedural process to make laws for the benefit of the Osage People. Each member of the Congress is elected by the People, and the Court should give substantial deference to the Congress on the issue of Constitutionality of legislative acts by reserving judgment for cases of absolute necessity between adversarial litigants who claim injury.

This is essential to the stability of our government. It is essential that our laws not be tied up in the courts for months or even years, on a unilateral declaration by the Chief that the law is unconstitutional. The branch of government charged with interpreting the laws is the judicial branch, and reserving that power over constitutional issues helps to provide a solid foundation for the people to interact with each other, conduct business, and live under certainty of the laws. The Chief is afforded the right to make his objections to legislative acts during the legislative process, and he has been given the authority to veto legislation by the Osage People. But when the elected members of the legislative branch override his veto, that legislation becomes effective law. That is how it is set up in the Osage Constitution in Article VI, and that is what Speaker Mason is asking this court to uphold. The Courts should not be a forum for appeal of legislation by elected officials simply because the constitutional process did not produce the results they desired.