

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0268-24

DATE: December 20, 2024

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE NAVAJO NATION 2025 STATE OF NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

PURPOSE: The purpose of this proposed resolution is to approve and adopt the Navajo Nation's 2025 State of New Mexico legislative priorities as recommended by the New Mexico Caucus of the 25th Navajo Nation Council.

Final Authority: Naabik'íyáti' Committee

Vote Required: Simple Majority

This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committees. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each Council Delegate to review each proposed resolution in detail.

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD J-J
Website Posting Time/Date 4:07 PM; 12-23-24
Posting End Date: 12-28-24
Eligible for Action: 12-29-24

1 PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
2 25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL— Second Year, 2024

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4 INTRODUCED BY

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6 _____
7 Primary Sponsor



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9 TRACKING NO. 0268-24

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11 AN ACTION
12 RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; APPROVING
13 AND ADOPTING THE NAVAJO NATION 2025 STATE OF NEW
14 MEXICO LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

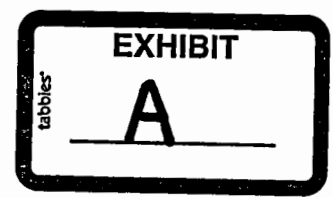
15
16 **WHEREAS:**

- 17 A. Statements of policy, enactment of positive law, intergovernmental agreements, budget
18 resolutions, and reallocations, must be reviewed and approved by resolution by the
19 appropriate standing committee(s) and the Navajo Nation Council except as otherwise
20 provided herein. 2 N.N.C. § 164 (A).
- 21 B. Statements of policy are written statements submitted to federal, state or local governments
22 by a Navajo Nation official stating the official position of the Navajo Nation on proposed
23 legislation or other action by that government. 2 N.N.C. § 110 (W).
- 24 C. The Navajo Nation established the Naabik'iyáti' Committee as a Navajo Nation Council
25 standing committee and as such empowered Naabik'iyáti' Committee to assist and
26 coordinate all requests for information, appearances and testimony relating to proposed
27 county, state and federal legislation impacting the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §§ 700 (A)
28 and 701(A)(6).
- 29 D. Each of the 25th Navajo Nation Council Delegates representing New Mexico chapters and
30 communities recommend New Mexico Legislative Priorities for 2025 for their respective

1 area(s) of oversight to the New Mexico Caucus of the Navajo Nation Council; after review
2 and discussion, the New Mexico Caucus compiled the recommendations into the 2025 New
3 Mexico Legislative Priorities attached and incorporated herein as **Exhibit A**.

4
5 **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

6 The Navajo Nation hereby approves the Navajo Nation’s legislative priorities relating to the
7 State of New Mexico for 2025, attached as **Exhibit A**, as determined by the 25th Navajo Nation
8 Council and authorizes the Navajo Nation President, the Navajo Nation Speaker, and their
9 designees, and the Naabik’íyáti’ Committee members, to advocate the position of the Navajo
10 Nation with the State of New Mexico, State of New Mexico Legislature, New Mexico State
11 Agencies, and the State of New Mexico Governor’s Office for the preservation of funding and
12 policies in the Navajo Nation’s priority areas.



**NEW MEXICO COUNCIL DELEGATES CAUCUS OF THE
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE'S STATE TASK FORCE SUBCOMMITTEE
25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL**

New Mexico Legislative Priorities for 2025

1. Capital Outlay & Infrastructure

- a. Request the State of New Mexico ("New Mexico") to remove and/or amend the requirement to obligate five percent (5%) of any Appropriated amounts within six (6) months of acceptance of an Intergovernmental Grant Agreement ("IGA").
 - i. Consider alternative options to address a master IGA or combined IGAs to expedite projects on behalf of the Nation and its communities.
- b. Request New Mexico to recognize the delegation of signature by the Navajo Nation President.
 - i. Establishing a universal vetting process to ensure capital outlay and infrastructure projects are supported and feasible.
- c. Request to New Mexico to use broad languages in the IGA's like plan, design, or construct when instructions are made on how Appropriated Funds will be utilized.
- d. Minimize New Mexico's barriers to meeting the five percent (5%) expenditure requirement within a specified period.

2. Navajo Nation Consultation

- a. Request quarterly coordination meetings between the Navajo Nation ("Nation") and New Mexico's Indian Affairs Department ("IAD") and joint trainings between the Nation and various New Mexico's Departments.
- b. Enhance and recognized Legislative Branch Government-to-Government Communication between the Nation and New Mexico.
- c. Enhance and require Navajo representation on any vacant and/or proposed New Mexico Commissions, Committees, and Boards to amplify the position of the Nation.
- d. Ensure policy changes to existing or new Executive Orders are in consultation with the Nation.
- e. Address redistricting concerns that will impact Navajos as it relates to Federal, State, and County Elections to ensure Navajo's Candidate of Choice.

- f. Ensure concerns and policy changes within the Energy Transition Act are in consultation with the Nation.

3. Public Safety

- a. Support New Mexico funding for public safety, correctional facilities, fire stations, and emergency response capabilities for public safety, such as New Mexico State Police's presence back into rural communities and their dispatch services in the four corners region; including communication enhancements for E911 services, rural addressing on the Nation, and improve rural coverage in dead zone areas.
- b. Improve and enhance communication and coordination between the Nation and New Mexico on Cannabis issues and related matters.
- c. Ensure New Mexico and its' counties Tier 3 sex offenders registry criteria and policies are aligned with the Nation; improve sex offender risk assessment registry criteria and policies; and enhance and improve New Mexico's policies on sex offender's registry registrations and notification requirements.
- d. Request criterion to the IAD on the selection process of political appointees and designees to include the Nation.
- e. Request New Mexico funding for an inter-coordinated information management system to respond and combat Missing & Murdered, and Human Trafficking Navajos in New Mexico.

4. Public Health and Healthcare

- a. Fund New Mexico programs that support Navajo families with Missing & Murdered, and Human Trafficking relatives, including victim's services and programs.
- b. Support New Mexico funding on Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, & Children (WIC) for Navajos.
- c. Establish a New Mexico-Navajo Nation Health Council and/or State Task Force to advocate for the Navajo Communities in New Mexico in coordination with New Mexico and Navajo Division of Health.
- d. Secure and increase New Mexico funding of senior centers and their programs on the Nation and along the Stateline, including but not limited to the Fort Defiance Senior Center, as well as the Navajo Nation Division of Aging and Long-Term Care Support (DALTCS) as a recipient of New Mexico Aging & Long-Term Services (ALTC).
- e. Request for funding to assist in the environment clean-up effort of the Navajo Forestry Products Industry site in Navajo, New Mexico as a public health matter.

5. Community and Housing Development

- a. Involve the Nation on the Economic Feasibility Study of the Freight Rail Service and Potential Railroad Alignments between the Four Corners Region and the I-40 Corridor that will impact the Nation.
- b. New Mexico funding for transitional housing for Navajos who are victims of violent crimes and domestic violence.
- c. Support New Mexico, in partnership with the Federal Government, on funding and development of telecommunications infrastructure on the Nation, including areas of Ramah, Tohajilee, and Alamo, New Mexico.
- d. Support the San Juan River Dineh Water Users in securing funding for a new excavator and attachments to complete out their farming, irrigation, and water projects. Total cost is estimated to be one million dollars (\$1 million).
- e. Fund the Energy Transition Act, including its departments, divisions, offices, and programs, as it relates to job retention for Navajos.

6. Natural Resources

- a. Obtain New Mexico funding and assistance to mitigate Abandon Uranium Mines (AUM) clean-up on the Nation.
- b. Oppose any radiation repository near and/or on the Nation.
- c. Support additional funding for water infrastructure projects, including the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project.
- d. Support additional funding and resources for the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) personnel and Downwinders who are Navajos.
- e. Recognize and preserve the Nation's cultural sites and resources in New Mexico.
- f. Request funding for agriculture and ranching on the Nation, including but not limited to farming, gardening, and strengthening cultural enrichment and growth.

7. COVID-19 Pandemic

- a. Fund home-based support for Navajo adults living with COVID-19 (covid long haulers) by promoting knowledge and coping resources and responses that lead to improved holistic health.

8. Human and Social Services

- a. Support New Mexico, in partnership with the Federal Government, on funding Navajo Veteran's wellness and medical care.
- b. Advocate for five million dollars (\$5 million) funding increase for Sexual Assault Prevention and Response on the Nation.
- c. Support funding for Missing & Murdered, and Trafficking Awareness via education as it pertains to Navajos.

9. Education

- a. Enhance communication with the New Mexico Public Education Department (PED) Secretary on matters related to Navajo family and children on certification and schooling.
- b. Advocate for legislation regarding the creation of an Indian Education Trust Fund and its equitable distribution to support Navajo students; and investment in salary increases for all school personnel to remain competitive, which include a competitive benefits package such as reduced employee healthcare cost and educator housing assistance.
- c. Support additional funding for cultural and traditional learning, and the recognition of the Navajo language in New Mexico's education system.
- d. Support additional funding for Early Childhood Education and Development (ECD), and care for Navajo families in New Mexico, such as Tohajiilee's Early Education Center.
- e. Support additional funding for Vocational and Technical training for Navajo students.
- f. Support additional funding for Family Learning Centers and Libraries on the Nation.
- g. Address and advocate the IAD's \$30 million on matters related to the Indian Education Funds and reimbursement by New Mexico to the Nation.

10. Economic Development

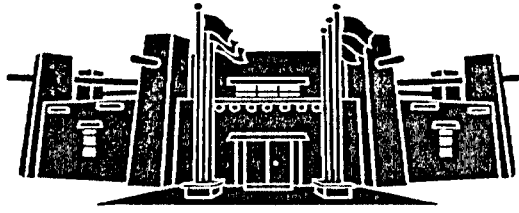
- a. Support funding for development of Navajo owned businesses and nonprofits in New Mexico.
- b. Oppose expansion of racinos as it impacts and relates to the Nation's Gaming Compacts.

11. Protection of Existing Statutes and Future Legislations

- a. Protect and enhance statutes to protect Navajo Rights, including but not limited to the State Tribal Collaboration Act, New Mexico Indian Education Act, and Tribal Infrastructure Fund Act.

- b. Support enacting a Redistricting Commission to protect the voting rights of Navajo and tribal nations in New Mexico.

Office of Legislative Counsel
Telephone: (928) 871-7166
Fax No. (928) 871-7576



Honorable Crystalyne Curley
Speaker
25th Navajo Nation Council

MEMORANDUM

TO: Hon. Amber K. Crotty, Council Delegate
25th Navajo Nation Council

FROM: 
G. Michelle Espino, Chief Legislative Counsel
Office of Legislative Counsel

DATE: December 20, 2024

**SUBJECT: AN ACTION RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE;
APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE NAVAJO NATION 2025 STATE
OF NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

As requested, I have prepared the above-referenced proposed resolution and associated legislative summary sheet pursuant to your request for legislative drafting. The resolution drafted is legally sufficient, although, as with all legislation, challenges are possible in the courts. You are advised and encouraged to review the proposed resolution to ensure that it is drafted to your satisfaction. If you are satisfied with the proposed resolution, please sign it as "sponsor" and submit it to the Office of Legislative Services where it will be given a tracking number and sent to the Office of the Speaker for assignment. As you may be aware, the Speaker is authorized to refer this proposed resolution to other committees than those stated in the title.

If the proposed resolution is unacceptable to you, please contact me at the Office of Legislative Counsel and advise me of the changes you would like made to the proposed resolution. Ahéhee'.

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: 0268-24

SPONSOR: Amber Kanazbah Crotty

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Naabik'iyáti' Committee; Approving and Adopting the Navajo Nation 2025 State of New Mexico Legislative Priorities

Date posted: December 23, 2024 at 4:07 PM

Digital comments may be e-mailed to comments@navajo-nsn.gov

Written comments may be mailed to:

Executive Director
Office of Legislative Services
P.O. Box 3390
Window Rock, AZ 86515
(928) 871-7586

Comments may be made in the form of chapter resolutions, letters, position papers, etc. Please include your name, position title, address for written comments; a valid e-mail address is required. Anonymous comments will not be included in the Legislation packet.

Please note: This digital copy is being provided for the benefit of the Navajo Nation chapters and public use. Any political use is prohibited. All written comments received become the property of the Navajo Nation and will be forwarded to the assigned Navajo Nation Council standing committee(s) and/or the Navajo Nation Council for review. Any tampering with public records are punishable by Navajo Nation law pursuant to 17 N.N.C. §374 *et. seq.*

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW SUMMARY

LEGISLATION NO.: 0268-24

SPONSOR: Honorable Amber Kanazbah Crotty


TITLE: An Action Relating to the Naabik'iyáti' Committee; Approving and Adopting the Navajo Nation 2025 State of New Mexico Legislative Priorities

Posted: December 23, 2024, at 4:07 PM

5 DAY Comment Period Ended: December 28, 2024

Digital Comments received:

Comments Supporting	<i>None</i>
Comments Opposing	<i>None</i>
Comments/Recommendations	<i>None</i>



Legislative Secretary II
Office of Legislative Services

December 30, 2024; 8:41 AM
Date/Time