

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0271-24

DATE: December 23, 2024

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; APPROVING THE NAVAJO NATION'S OFFICIAL FEDERAL PRIORITIES FOR THE INCOMING ADMINISTRATION AND THE 119TH CONGRESS

PURPOSE: The purpose of this proposed resolution is to approve the Navajo Nation's 2025 federal priorities as recommended and to authorize the Navajo Nation President and Speaker their designees to advocate for those priorities with federal government officials.

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 5:20
Website Posting Time/Date 5:24 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
3

4 INTRODUCED BY

5
6 _____
7 Primary Sponsor



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9 TRACKING NO. 0271-24

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11 AN ACTION
12 RELATING TO THE NAABIK'İYATI' COMMITTEE; APPROVING
13 THE NAVAJO NATION'S OFFICIAL FEDERAL PRIORITIES FOR
14 THE INCOMING ADMINISTRATION AND THE 119TH CONGRESS
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16 WHEREAS:

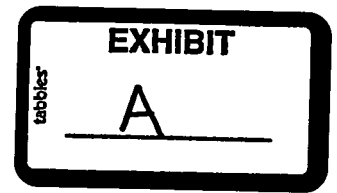
- 17 A. Navajo Nation statements of policy are written statements submitted to federal, state or
18 local governments by a Navajo Nation official stating the official position of the Navajo
19 Nation on proposed legislation or other action by that government. 2 N.N.C. § 110 (W).
20 Navajo Nation statements of policy must be reviewed and approved by resolution of the
21 appropriate standing committee(s) and the Navajo Nation Council. See 2 N.N.C § 164 (A).
22 B. The Navajo Nation established the Naabik'iyáti' Committee as a Navajo Nation Council
23 standing committee and empowered the Naabik'iyáti' Committee to assist and coordinate
24 all requests for information, appearances and testimony relating to proposed county, state
25 and federal legislation impacting the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §§ 700 (A) and 701(A)(6).
26 C. The Navajo Nation, known as Diné Bikéyah, has existed for centuries, with a governance
27 system rooted in traditional leadership structures that were later formalized through treaties
28 and agreements with the United States Government.
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- 1 D. The Treaty of 1868 between the Navajo Nation and the United States is a foundational
2 document establishing a government-to-government relationship, affirming Navajo
3 sovereignty, and providing for the Nation's territorial boundaries and rights.
- 4 E. Over the years, the Navajo Nation has engaged in numerous negotiations with the federal
5 government to uphold its trust responsibilities, including securing resources for education,
6 healthcare, and infrastructure development under the trust doctrine.
- 7 F. The Navajo Nation has played a significant role in shaping national policies affecting
8 Tribal Nations, advocating for legislation such as the Indian Self-Determination and
9 Education Assistance Act of 1975 and the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-
10 Determination Act of 1996.
- 11 G. The Nation's unique status as a sovereign government necessitates ongoing consultation
12 and collaboration with the federal government to ensure the protection of treaty rights,
13 natural resources, and the well-being of its citizens.
- 14 H. The Navajo Nation continues to assert its inherent sovereignty and seeks to strengthen its
15 government-to-government relationship with the United States through mutual respect,
16 dialogue, and partnerships in addressing the needs of its people.
- 17 I. The Navajo Nation is the largest land-base Tribe in the country, providing critical services
18 to over 400,000 members, half of whom reside on the Reservation and make up one-third
19 of the on-reservation Indian population in the United States.
- 20 J. The Navajo Nation is committed to promoting tribal sovereignty and the well-being of its
21 members through increased tribal control over federal programming, as well as through
22 economic development such as energy development in the Southwest, gaming, and
23 promoting entrepreneurialism, and in other critical areas.
- 24 K. The 119th Congress will be sworn-in on January 3, 2025, President-Elect Donald J. Trump
25 will be inaugurated as the United States President on January 20, 2025. It is imperative
26 that the Navajo Nation's leadership have authorization to engage with the incoming
27 Congress and President on issues important to the Navajo Nation's communities on day
28 one and those issues are attached and incorporated herein as **Exhibit A**.
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1 **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

2 The Navajo Nation hereby approves the official federal priorities of the Navajo Nation,
3 attached as **Exhibit A**. The Navajo Nation requests that all levels of the United States
4 Government accept, act upon and resolve through partnership and consultation with Navajo
5 Nation leadership. The Navajo Nation Council authorizes the Navajo Nation President and the
6 Navajo Nation Speaker or their designees to advocate for these priorities with the federal
7 government.

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25th Navajo Nation Council

The Navajo Nation 2025 Federal Priorities for the United States

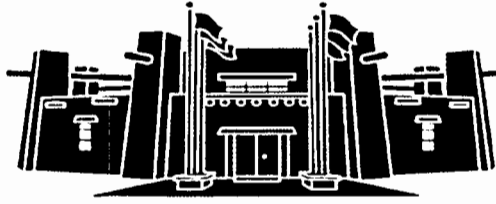
Presidential Administration and the 119th Congress

The Navajo Nation looks forward to partnering with the Donald J. Trump Administration and the 119th Congress to advance shared priorities that strengthen tribal sovereignty and restores greater autonomy to our Nation. By working together to reduce barriers that hinder development, empower tribes to manage their own resources, and streamline processes that promote self-reliance and economic growth, we can create opportunities that benefit not only the Navajo people but also the broader American community. The Nation remains committed to fostering a productive relationship built on mutual respect and shared goals for a stronger, more prosperous future. The following contains the federal priorities of the Navajo Nation:

- Respect for tribal sovereignty and government-to-government consultation
- Uphold and protect the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA)
- Maintain funding for tribes in the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)
- Maintain all funding levels for tribes with the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
- Remove regulatory barriers to streamline infrastructure approval processes on tribal lands
- Empower tribes to exercise more control over resources on tribal lands
- Support mandatory funding for Contract Support Costs and Section 105(l) Leases under the Indian Health Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Support advanced appropriation for the Indian Health Service
- Reauthorize and amend the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) to support Navajo patriots who have been adversely affected by the legacy of uranium mining
- Fund transportation programs to perform road construction and maintenance and remove regulatory red tape preventing the Navajo Nation from performing its own construction and maintenance
- Ensure there is Navajo representation within the Trump Administration and federal agencies
- Increased federal funding and services under the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- Maintain the full funding for the Sanitation Deficiency System (SDS) provided through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and make funding the SDS mandatory
- Repeal the Department of the Interior's land withdrawal at Chaco Canyon

- Reauthorization of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act (NAHASDA)
- Protect and maintain the current designations for the Bears Ears National Monument and the Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni – Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument
- Request the appointment of a member of the Navajo Nation for the IHS director position
- Support the reauthorization of the Special Diabetes Program for Indians
- Support increased funding through Medicare and Medicaid for tribes
- Ensure that Indian's Country's health care needs are met
- Increase funding for the Indian Health Service's construction of new facilities line item
- Increase funding for mental and behavioral services to address the use of fentanyl and opioid use
- Remove Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) procedural red tape' in order to expedite infrastructure development
- Support common-sense environmental measures to promote a healthy and safe environment
- Pass a long-term extension of the Farm Bill to provide funding for the Food Assistance Programs
- Appropriate federal funds to cover Operations and Maintenance costs of and for the completion of the Navajo Indian Irrigation Project (NIIP)
- Ensure that Navajos are able to participate fairly in the democratic processes in all elections
- Reauthorize the Great American Outdoors Act and ensure that the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) continues to receive their allocation to address the deferred maintenance backlog and need to repair and replace schools funded by the BIE on the Navajo Nation
- Support sufficient funding for tribal law enforcement to bring parity with law enforcement funding in other jurisdictions
- Eliminate dual and triple taxation in Indian Country so that tribes can better leverage their tax codes to be friendlier to outside investment opportunities in Indian Country

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



Honorable Crystalyne Curley
Speaker
25th Navajo Nation Council

MEMORANDUM

TO: Hon. Crystalyne Curley, Speaker
25th Navajo Nation Council

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

DATE: December 23, 2024

**SUBJECT: AN ACTION RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE;
APPROVING THE NAVAJO NATION'S OFFICIAL FEDERAL
PRIORITIES FOR THE INCOMING ADMINISTRATION AND THE
119TH CONGRESS**

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: 0271-24

SPONSOR: Crystalyn Curley

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Naabik'iyáti' Committee; Approving the Navajo Nation's Official Federal Priorities for the Incoming Administration and the 119th Congress

Date posted: December 23, 2024 at 5:24 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.: 0271-24

SPONSOR: Honorable Crystalyn Curley

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Naabik'iyáti' Committee; Approving the Navajo Nation's Official Federal Priorities for the Incoming Administration and the 119th Congress

Posted: December 23, 2024, at 5:24 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; 8:45 AM

Date/Time