

RESOLUTION OF THE
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

23rd NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - Third Year, 2017

AN ACTION

RELATING TO LAW AND ORDER AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES AND THE
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; AMENDING 2 N.N.C. §§ 952, 953 AND 954,
THE OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

Section One. Authority

- A. The Law and Order Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 601(B)(14), reviews and makes recommendations to the Navajo Nation Council on proposed amendments to and enactments in the Navajo Nation Code.
- B. The Naabik'iyáti' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 164(A)(9), reviews proposed legislation which requires final action by the Navajo Nation Council and pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 701(A)(5) serves as the oversight committee for the Office of Legislative Services.
- C. The Navajo Nation Council, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 164(A), reviews and approves, by resolution, enactments of positive law.

Section Two. Findings

- A. The Office of Legislative Services, established within the Legislative Branch, shall provide complete and full range of professional, technical and administrative support services to the Navajo Nation Council, unstaffed Commissions, Task Forces or Boards of the Navajo Nation Council, Council Delegates and the certified Chapters of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §§ 951 and 952.
- B. The Executive Director of the Office of Legislative Services is currently responsible for program planning, staff, direction and general supervision, budget preparation, implementation, management and control, and property and facilities coordination and management within the Office of Legislative Services. 2 N.N.C. § 953.

C. With the changes in the composition of the Navajo Nation Council and the legislative process, the responsibilities of the Office of Legislative Services have expanded beyond the current general duties and responsibilities; however, at the same time the responsibilities of the Office of Legislative Services have diminished in some areas, such as the reliance on contractors to monitor federal and state legislative actions.

D. It is in the best interest of the Navajo Nation Legislative Branch and the Navajo Nation Council to amend the Office of Legislative Services purpose, duties and responsibilities to incorporate new duties and responsibilities as well as tailor the current duties and responsibilities to fit the need.

Section Three. Amending 2 N.N.C. § 952, 953 and 954, the Office of Legislative Services

TITLE 2. NAVAJO NATION GOVERNMENT

CHAPTER 3. LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

SUBCHAPTER 12. LEGISLATIVE OFFICES

ARTICLE 1. OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

§ 952. Purpose

The Office of Legislative Services shall provide complete and full range of professional, technical and administrative support services to the Navajo Nation Council, Standing Committees of the Navajo Nation Council, unstaffed Commissions, Task Forces or Boards of the Navajo Nation Council, and Council Delegates. ~~and the certified Chapters of the Navajo Nation.~~

§ 953. Executive Director

A. The Office of Legislative Services shall be headed by an Executive Director, who shall be recommended for appointment by the Speaker in consultation with the Naabik'iyáti' Committee and subsequently confirmed by the Navajo Nation Council. The Executive Director will be administratively responsible to the Speaker and serve at

the pleasure of the Naabik'iyáti' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council. The Executive Director will be responsible for: program planning and administration; ~~staff;~~ Navajo Nation Council and Committee Legislative Process guidance including policy recommendations to the Naabik'iyáti' Committee, and the development and implementation of procedures; ~~direction and general supervision of staff;~~ budget preparation, implementation, management and control; ~~and property and facilities coordination and management within the Office of Legislative Services.~~

B. The Executive Director shall faithfully and diligently execute all duties and authorities delegated by Law.

§ 954. Organization and functions

The Executive Director shall establish an organizational structure which shall provide for the following primary organizational functions within the Legislative Branch:

- A. General Services, which shall include processing of payroll and budget expenditures for travel, supplies, equipment, etc., personnel administration and management, property and facilities coordination and management;
- B. Advising, Reporting and Clerical Services, which shall include recording meetings, transcription and maintenance of Council and standing committee meetings and resolutions, minutes and journals, resolution processing, agenda preparation and provision of secretarial services to Council Delegates.
- C. Legislative Research, which shall include researching ~~for preparation of Council and Committee legislation,~~ monitoring and analysis of pending legislation, and providing technical assistance (including English to Navajo and Navajo to English interpretation) in resolution processing and discussion, and coordination with various Council Delegates, Navajo Nation programs, departments, Divisions on proposed, pending and approved legislation. ~~In addition, this organizational unit shall perform various intergovernmental relations functions, which shall include monitoring of federal, state and other legislative actions, providing periodic reports on these matters to the appropriate standing committees, Navajo Nation offices and officials, and the full Navajo Nation Council.~~

D. Support services to the Office of Legislative Counsel.

Section Four. Effective Date

The Navajo Nation Code amendment enacted herein shall be effective pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 221(B).

Section Five. Codification

The provisions of this Act which amend or adopt new sections of the Navajo Nation Code shall be codified by the Office of Legislative Counsel. The Office of Legislative Counsel shall incorporate such amended provisions in the next codification of the Navajo Nation Code.

Section Six. Saving Clause

Should any provisions of this ordinance be determined invalid by the Navajo Nation Supreme Court, or the District Courts of the Navajo Nation, without appeal to the Navajo Nation Supreme Court, those portions of this ordinance which are not determined invalid shall remain the law of the Navajo Nation.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting in Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona) at which a quorum was present and that the same was passed by a vote of 18 in favor and 01 opposed, this 20th day of April, 2017



LoRenzo C. Bates, Speaker
Navajo Nation Council


4-21-17

Date

Motion: Honorable Jonathan L. Hale
Second: Honorable Seth Damon

ACTION BY THE NAVAJO NATION PRESIDENT:

1. I hereby sign into law the foregoing legislation, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §1005 (c)(10) on this 30th day of April 2017.



Russell Begaye, President
Navajo Nation

2. I hereby veto the foregoing legislation, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §1005 (c)(11), on this _____ day of _____ 2017 for reason(s) expressed in the attached letter to the Speaker

Russell Begaye, President
Navajo Nation

NAVAJO NATION

RCS# 750

NNC Spring Session

4/20/2017

12:01:34 PM

Amd# to Amd#

Recall Legislation 0115-17

PASSED

MOT Hale

SEC Damon

Yea : 18

Nay : 1

Not Voting : 4

Yea : 18

Begay, K

Chee

Perry

Smith

Begay, NM

Crotty

Pete

Tso

Begay, S

Damon

Phelps

Tsosie

BeGaye, N

Daniels

Slim

Witherspoon

Brown

Hale

Nay : 1

Filfred

Not Voting : 4

Bates

Jack

Shepherd

Yazzie

Bennett