



**The Navajo Nation** **DR. BUU NYGREN** *PRESIDENT*  
**Yideeskáądi Nitsáhákees** **RICHELLE MONTOYA** *VICE PRESIDENT*

July 26, 2024

Honorable Crystalyne Curley, Speaker  
Office of the Speaker  
Navajo Nation Council  
P.O. Box 3390  
Window Rock, AZ 86515

*RE: CJY-35-24; An Act Relating to Law and Order, Health, Education and Human Services, Naabik'iyáti' Committees, and the Navajo Nation Council; Amending 2 N.N.C. §§ 1651 – 1656, and § 401(C); Changing the Name of the Division of Social Services to the Division for Children and Family Services*

Dear Honorable Delegates of the 25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council,

I am happy to sign this resolution into law.

The now Division for Children and Family Services has been working off a strategic plan for some time. This strategic plan was built upon the division's strengths rather than focusing on its problems, making it a positive collaborative approach.

In collaboration with division staff and many stakeholders, the division determined that a name change was necessary to help the people understand the purpose of the division. The purpose is to help the children and youth to benefit families, not just social services.

The name change also debuts the division's efforts to become a P.L. 102-477 organization.

I am proud of the work of the Division for Children and Family Services and support their efforts to assist the Navajo People.

Sincerely,

  
Dr. Buu Nygren, *President*  
**THE NAVAJO NATION**

RESOLUTION OF THE  
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL  
25<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - SECOND YEAR, 2024

AN ACT

RELATING TO LAW AND ORDER, HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES, NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES, AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; AMENDING 2 N.N.C. §§ 1651-1656, AND § 401(C); CHANGING THE NAME OF THE DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO THE DIVISION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Law and Order Committee is empowered to review and make recommendations to the Navajo Nation Council on proposed amendments and enactments to the Navajo Nation Code. 2 N.N.C. § 601(B)(14).
- B. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee has oversight of the Division of social Services. 2 N.N.C. § 401(C).
- C. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee considers proposed resolutions that require final action by the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. § 164(A)(9).
- D. The Navajo Nation Council approves enactments and amendments of positive law. 2 N.N.C. § 164(A).

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- A. The Division of Social Services was established in the Executive Branch. 2 N.N.C. § 1651.
- B. The Division is requesting a name change from Division of Social Services to Division for Children and Family Services to emphasize the work it does with children and families.

SECTION THREE. AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 2 OF THE NAVAJO NATION CODE

The Navajo Nation hereby approves amendments to the Navajo Nation Code, Title 2, as follows:

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NAVAJO NATION CODE  
TITLE 2. NAVAJO NATION GOVERNMENT

CHAPTER 3. LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
SUBCHAPTER 9. STANDING COMMITTEES

Article 2. Health, Education, and Human Services Committee

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C. Oversight.

1. To serve as the oversight Committee for the Division of Health, Division for Children and Family ~~of Social~~ Services, Division of Human Resources Department of Diné Education, Division of General Services and to review, recommend or propose the adoption, amendment or rescission of its Plan of Operation.

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NAVAJO NATION CODE  
TITLE 2. NAVAJO NATION GOVERNMENT  
CHAPTER 5. EXECUTIVE BRANCH  
SUBCHAPTER 25. DIVISION ~~OF SOCIAL~~ FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILY  
SERVICES

§ 1651. Establishment

There is hereby established the Navajo Division for Children and Family ~~of Social~~ Services within the Executive Branch of the Navajo Nation.

§ 1652. Purposes

The purpose of the Navajo Division for Children and Family ~~of Social~~ Services shall be to provide the Navajo people with such essential social services as approved and authorized by the Navajo Nation Council and to ensure the highest quality of social welfare programs for the Navajo people by coordinating with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and other federal, state and private entities.

§ 1653. Personnel

The Navajo Division for Children and Family ~~of Social~~ Services shall be administered by an Executive Director whose appointment shall be made by the President of the Navajo Nation and confirmed by the Navajo Nation Council upon recommendation of the Health, Education and ~~Social~~-Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation

Council and who shall serve at the pleasure of the President of the Navajo Nation. The Executive Director may employ a Deputy Director and shall employ such other personnel as may be deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of the Division. All personnel shall be subject to the Personnel Policies and Procedures of the Executive Branch of the Navajo Nation.

#### § 1654. Organization

The Navajo Division for Children and Family ~~of Social~~ Services shall be comprised of such Departments, Programs, Offices and administrative components as may be deemed necessary by the Executive Director to fulfill its purpose, subject to legislative review and approval of the Division's Plan of Operation.

#### § 1655. Legislative Oversight

The Navajo Division for Children and Family ~~of Social~~ Services shall operate under the legislative oversight of the Health, Education and Human ~~Social~~ Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 401(C). ~~451 et seq.~~ The Division shall operate pursuant to a Plan of Operation approved by the Health, Education and Human ~~Social~~ Services Committee ~~and the Government Services Committee~~ of the Navajo Nation Council.

#### § 1656. Amendments

Sections 1651 through 1655 may be amended from time to time by the Navajo Nation Council upon recommendation by the Health, Education and Human ~~Social~~ Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council after consultation with the Navajo Division for Children and Family ~~of Social~~ Services.

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#### SECTION FOUR. EFFECTIVE DATE

The amendments enacted herein shall be effective pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 221.

#### SECTION FIVE. CODIFICATION

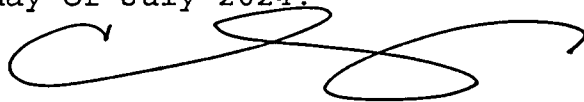
The provisions of the Act which amend or adopt new sections of the Navajo Nation Code shall be codified by the Office of Legislative Counsel. The Office of Legislative Counsel shall incorporate such amended provisions in the next codification of the Navajo Nation Code.

**SECTION SIX. SAVING CLAUSE**

Should any portion of the amendment enacted herein be determined invalid by the Navajo Nation Supreme Court, or the District Court of the Navajo Nation, without appeal to the Navajo Nation Supreme Court, those portions not determined invalid shall remain the law of the Navajo Nation.

**CERTIFICATION**

I, hereby, certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the 25<sup>th</sup> 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 19 in Favor, and 00 Opposed, on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of July 2024.



Honorable Crystalyne Curley, Speaker  
25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council

7/18/2024

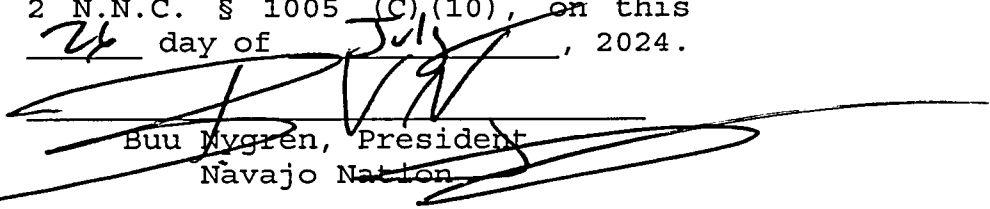
Date

Motion: Honorable George H. Tolth  
Second: Honorable Eugenia Charles-Newton

Speaker Crystalyne Curley not voting

**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 26 day of July, 2024.



Buu Nygren, President  
Navajo Nation

2. I, hereby, veto the foregoing legislation, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 1005 (C)(11), on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024 for the reason(s) expressed in the attached letter to the Speaker.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Buu Nygren, President  
Navajo Nation

**NAVAJO NATION**

426

7/16/2024

Navajo Nation Council Summer Session

09:05:35 PM

**Amd# to Amd#**

**New Business: Item B.**

**PASSED**

MOT Tolth, G

**CONSENT AGENDA**

SEC Charles-Newton,

**#0140-24 ; #0143-24**

**Yeas : 19**

**Nays : 0**

**Excused : 2**

**Not Voting : 2**

**Yea : 19**

Arviso, S

Crotty, A

Nez, R

Tolth, G

Begay, H

Daniels, H

Notah, N

Tso, O

Begay, N

James, V

Parrish, S

Yanito, C

Charles-Newton, E

Jesus, B

Simonson, G

Yazzie, L

Claw, S

Nez, A

Slater, C

**Nay : 0**

**Excused : 2**

Yazzie, C

Simpson, D

**Not Voting : 2**

Aseret, L

Johnson, C

**Presiding Speaker: Curley, C**