



The Navajo Nation **DR. BUU NYGREN** *PRESIDENT*

Yideeskáadi Nitsáhákees | *Think for the Future*

August 6, 2026

Honorable Delegates of the 25th Navajo Nation Council
25th Navajo Nation Council
P.O. Box 3390
Window Rock, AZ 86515

RE: Resolution No. CJY-40-26: An Act Relating to the Law and Order, Health, Education, and Human Services, and Naabik'iyáti' Committees, and the Navajo Nation Council; Amending 2 N.N.C. § 401 (C) and 1701 et seq.; Changing the Name of the Division of Human Resources to the Navajo Division of Human Services.

Dear Honorable Delegates of the 25th Navajo Nation Council:

I am pleased to sign this Resolution changing the name of the Division of Human Resources to the Navajo Division of Human Services. This name change was sought by the Division because its name causes confusion.

The term "human resources" is associated with the functions of personnel management. However, the Division of Human Resources is responsible for much more than personnel management. Indeed, one of the Departments within the Department of Personnel Management. Therefore, it is important to change the name to accurately describe all the services that the Division provides.

In addition, the Division of Human Services now has the ability to hire a Deputy Division Director who will serve as a political at will. This is an initiative of my administration. My observation has been that each Division Director needs a Deputy who can manage the day-to-day so that the Director can focus on visionary change. I appreciate Director Reycita Toddy for following through on this initiative ensuring that the next Director of the Navajo Division of Human Services will have a Deputy to assist.

Congratulations to the Navajo Division of Human Services! Yéego.

Sincerely,

Dr. Buu Nygren, *President*
THE NAVAJO NATION

RESOLUTION OF THE
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL
25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- Fourth Year, 2026

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE LAW AND ORDER, HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES, AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL;
AMENDING 2 N.N.C. §§ 401(C) AND 1701 *ET SEQ.*; CHANGING THE NAME OF
THE DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES TO THE NAVAJO DIVISION OF HUMAN
SERVICES

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Law and Order Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with the enumerated power to review and make recommendations to the Navajo Nation Council on proposed amendments to and enactments in the Navajo Nation Code. 2 N.N.C. §§ 600(A) and 601(B)(14).
- B. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council and serves as the oversight for the Division of Human Resources. 2 N.N.C. §§ 400(A) and 401(C).
- C. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with the authority to develop all 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 Human Resources ("DHR") was established in the Executive Branch under Resolution CS-49-88. 2 N.N.C. § 1701.
- B. On February 3, 2016, Subchapter 27 of Title 2 of the Navajo Nation Code was amended under Resolution CJA-3-16 which removed the Department of Veterans Affairs from the DHR.
- C. The current name of the DHR creates confusion with the Department of Personnel Management, which operates under the authority of the same division and is responsible for personnel administration functions.

- D. The term "human resources" is commonly associated with personnel management, hiring, employee relations, and workforce administration, which are core functions of the Department of Personnel Management.
- E. The current naming structure may lead to administrative inefficiencies, public misunderstanding, and duplication or misdirection of services due to the overlap in terminology.
- F. The DHR submitted proposed amendments to the Navajo Nation Code, attached as **EXHIBIT A**. The amendments will change the name of the Division of Human Resources to the Navajo Division of Human Services.
- G. The Department of Justice reviewed the proposed amendments as part of Section 164 review No. 025677, attached as **EXHIBIT B**, and determined the proposed amendments as legally sufficient.

SECTION THREE. AMENDING TITLE 2 OF THE NAVAJO NATION CODE

The Navajo Nation Council hereby amends Title 2 of the Navajo Nation Code as follows:

NAVAJO NATION CODE
TITLE 2. NAVAJO NATION GOVERNMENT
CHAPTER 3. LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
SUBCHAPTER 9. STANDING COMMITTEES

Article 2. Health, Education and Human Services Committee

* * *

§ 401. Powers

* * *

C. Oversight.

1. To serve as the oversight Committee for the Division of Health, Division for Children and Family Services, Navajo Division of Human Services, ~~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.

* * *

NAVAJO NATION CODE
TITLE 2. NAVAJO NATION GOVERNMENT
CHAPTER 5. EXECUTIVE BRANCH
SUBCHAPTER 27. NAVAJO DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES SERVICES

§ 1701. Establishment

There is established the Navajo Division of Human Resources Services within the Executive Branch of the Navajo Nation government.

§ 1702. Purpose

The Navajo Division of Human Resources Services shall consolidate all human ~~resources~~ services programs and activities of the Navajo Nation government within a single division to facilitate effective management and delivery of human ~~resource~~ services programs and services in a comprehensive manner.

§ 1703. Personnel and organization

A. Personnel.

1. There is hereby established the position of the ~~Executive~~ Division Director and such other positions that are necessary and provided in the budget as approved by the Navajo Nation Council for the Navajo Division of Human ~~Resources~~ Services.
2. All Navajo Division of Human ~~Resources~~ Services personnel shall be hired and compensated pursuant to the policies and guidelines of the Navajo Nation Personnel Policies and ~~Procedures~~ Manual, except the ~~Executive~~ Division Director who shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the President of the Navajo Nation and confirmed by the Navajo Nation Council.
3. The Appointed Division Director may hire staff, as Political at Will, based on special projects or additional administrative duties and assignments from the Office of the President and Vice President, including a Deputy Division Director or Executive Staff Assistant. This authority shall be concurred by the President of the Navajo Nation and staff shall serve at the pleasure of the Division Director of Human Services.

B. Organization.

1. The Navajo Division of Human Resources Services shall be comprised of programs and administrative components as may be deemed necessary subject to legislative review and approval of the department's and/or program's Plans of Operation.
2. The Navajo Division of Human Resources Services shall consist of the following departments and ~~offices~~ programs:
 - a. Department of ~~Personnel Management~~ Human Resources
 - b. Navajo Department of Workforce Development
 - c. Navajo Department of Retirement Services
 - d. ~~Office of Broadcast Services~~ Navajo Nation Television and Film
 - e. Office of Navajo Labor Relations
 - ~~f. Office of Navajo Women and Families~~
 - ~~g.~~ f. Navajo Office of Vital Records & Identification
 - ~~h.~~ g. Navajo Occupational Safety and Health Administration
 - ~~i.~~ h. Department of Child Support Enforcement Services
 - ~~j.~~ i. Staff Development and Training Program
 - ~~k.~~ j. Navajo Nation Band Program
 - k. Office of Background Investigations

§ 1704. Responsibility and Authority

- A. The Navajo Division of Human Resources Services provides centralized and decentralized human resources ~~program~~ services to the Navajo Nation government. The Division management is accountable to the President of the Navajo Nation for performance of its functional responsibilities in an effective and efficient manner. All management Personnel within the Division shall have sufficient authority established by their ~~plans of operation~~ Plans of Operation to perform their job responsibilities not inconsistent with the Master Plan or Navajo law.

B. The Executive Director of the Navajo Division of Human Resources Services shall have the following responsibilities and authorities:

1. Be responsible for the efficient management and administration of the Navajo Division of Human Resources Services and its departments and programs;
2. Provide quarterly reports of all activities within the Navajo Division of Human Resources Services and its departments and programs to the President of the Navajo Nation and the Health, Education, and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council;
3. Supervise and direct all department directors and program managers within the Navajo Division of Human Resources Services;
4. Develop, recommend and implement (upon adoption by the appropriate Navajo Nation legislative body) policies, rules and regulations governing matters delegated to the Navajo Division of Human Resources Services and its departments and programs;
5. Set priorities and participate in overall Navajo Division of Human Resources Services departments' and programs' performance-based budget planning and development process;
6. Conduct periodic performance review of Navajo Division of Human Resources Services departments and programs for effectiveness and progress to ensure compliance with the annual fiscal year performance-based budget requirements;
7. Coordinate with Navajo Division of Human Resources Services departments and programs, administrative, financial and operating policies for the Navajo Division of Human Resources Services; and
8. Represent the Navajo Division of Human Resources Services at executive-level planning sessions.

§ 1705. Legislative oversight

The Navajo Division of Human Resources Services shall operate under the legislative oversight of the Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.

§ 1706. Amendments

Sections 1701 through 1706 may be amended by the ~~Government Services~~ Naabik'iyáti' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council upon the recommendation of the Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.

SECTION FOUR. 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 FIVE. SAVING CLAUSE

If any provision of this Act is determined invalid by the Supreme Court of the Navajo Nation, or by a Navajo Nation District Court without appeal to the Navajo Nation Supreme Court, the remainder of this Act shall remain the law of the Navajo Nation.

SECTION SIX. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall be effective pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 221(A) and (B).

CERTIFICATION

I, hereby, certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the 25th 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 21 in Favor, and 00 Opposed, on this 20th day of July 2026.


Honorable Crystalyne Curley, Speaker
25th Navajo Nation Council

7/30/2026

Date

Motion: Honorable Vince R. James

Second: Honorable Nathan Notah

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 6 day of August, 2026.


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 _____, 2026 for the reason(s) expressed in the attached letter to the Speaker.

Buu Nygren, President
Navajo Nation

Draft 9-10-25

TITLE 2. NAVAJO NATION GOVERNMENT

Chapter 5. Executive Branch

SUBCHAPTER 27. Navajo Division of Human Resources Services

§ 1701. Establishment

There is established the Navajo Division of Human Resources Services within the Executive Branch of the Navajo Nation government.

§ 1702. Purpose

The Navajo Division of Human Resources Services shall consolidate all human resources-services programs and activities of the Navajo Nation government within a single division to facilitate effective management and delivery of human resources services programs and services in a comprehensive manner.

§ 1703. Personnel and organization

A. Personnel.

1. There is hereby established the position of the ~~Executive~~ Division Director and such other positions that are necessary and provided in the budget as approved by the Navajo Nation Council for the Navajo Division of Human Resources Services.

2. All Navajo Division of Human Resources Services personnel shall be hired and compensated pursuant to the policies and guidelines of the Navajo Nation Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual, except the ~~Executive~~ Division Director who shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the President of the Navajo Nation and confirmed by the Navajo Nation Council.

3. The Appointed Division Director may hire staff, as Political at Will, based on special projects or additional administrative duties and assignments from the Office of the President and Vice President, including a Deputy Division Director or Executive Staff Assistant. This authority shall be concurred by the President of the Navajo Nation and staff shall serve at the pleasure of the Division Director of Human Services.

B. Organization.

1. The Navajo Division of Human Resources Services shall be comprised of programs and administrative components as may be deemed necessary subject to legislative review and approval of the department's and/or program's Plan of Operation.

2. The Navajo Division of Human Resources Services shall consist of the following departments and ~~offices~~ programs:

a. Department of ~~Personnel Management~~ Human Resources

b. Navajo Department of Workforce Development

c. Navajo Department of Retirement Services

d. ~~Office of Broadcast Services~~ Navajo Nation Television and Film

e. Office of Navajo Labor Relations

f. ~~Office of Navajo Women and Families~~ Navajo Office of Vital Records & Identification

g. Navajo Occupational Safety and Health Administration

h. Department of Child Support ~~Enforcement~~ Services

i. Staff Development and Training ~~Department~~ Program

j. Navajo Nation Band Program

k. Office of Background Investigations

§ 1704. Responsibility and Authority

A. The Navajo Division of Human Resources Services provides centralized and decentralized human resource ~~program services~~ to the Navajo Nation government. The Division management is accountable to the President of the Navajo Nation for performance of its functional responsibilities in an effective and efficient manner. All management personnel within the Division shall have sufficient authority established by their Plans of Operation to perform their job responsibilities ~~not inconsistent~~ with the Master Plan or Navajo law.

B. The ~~Executive Division~~ Director of the Navajo Division of Human Resources Services shall have the following responsibilities and authorities:

1. Be responsible for the efficient management and administration of the Navajo Division of Human Resources Services and its departments and programs;
2. Provide quarterly reports of all activities within the Navajo Division of Human Resources Services and its departments and programs to the President of the Navajo Nation and the Health, Education, and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council;
3. Supervise and direct all department directors and program managers within the Navajo Division of Human Resources Services;
4. Develop, recommend and implement (upon adoption by the appropriate Navajo Nation legislative body) policies, rules and regulations governing matters delegated to the Navajo Division of Human Resources Services and its departments and programs;
5. Set priorities and participate in overall Navajo Division of Human Resources Services departments' and programs' performance-based budget planning and development process;
6. Conduct periodic performance reviews of Navajo Division of Human Resources Services departments and programs for effectiveness and progress to ensure compliance with the annual fiscal year performance-based budget requirements;
7. Coordinate with Navajo Division of Human Resources Services departments and programs, administrative, financial and operating policies for the Navajo Division of Human Resources Services; and
8. Represent the Navajo Division of Human Resources Services at executive level planning sessions.

§ 1705. Legislative Oversight

The Navajo Division of Human Resources Services shall operate under the legislative oversight of the Health, Education, and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.

Section Four. ~~Rescinding CO-39-10~~

~~The Navajo Nation, in amending the above Title 2, Chapter 5, Subchapter 27, Section 1704, hereby rescinds CO-39-10 which specifically amended Section 1704 B. Effective Date~~

80 The Navajo Nation Code amendment enacted herein shall be effective pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 401 (C)(1).

81 Section Five. Codification

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

85 Section Six: Saving Clause

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



NAVAJO NATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



DOCUMENT
REVIEW
REQUEST
COVER SHEET

DOJ USE ONLY

November 4, 2025
DATE / TIME

NNDOJ #: See HighQ

DOC #: 25677

UNIT: Human Services/ Government

RESUBMITTAL: {...}

*** FOR NNDOJ USE ONLY - DO NOT CHANGE OR REVISE FORM. VARIATIONS OF THIS FORM WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. ***

CLIENT TO COMPLETE

DATE OF REQUEST: November 4, 2025 DIVISION: Division of Human Resources

CONTACT NAME: Lorraine Tabaha Reycita Toddy

PHONE NUMBER: 9288716375 E-MAIL: ltabaha@navajo-nsn.gov

TITLE OF DOCUMENT: Enabling Legislation Amendment

UNIT REVIEW

DATE/TIME IN UNIT: November 4, 2025 REVIEWING ATTORNEY/ADVOCATE: Christopher Schneider

DATE/TIME ATTORNEY REVIEW COMPLETE: {...}

DATE/TIME OUT OF UNIT: See email transmitting completed document

DOJ ATTORNEY / ADVOCATE COMMENTS

25-6673/25677 - DHR - amendment of enabling legislation to amend the title of the Division - changing from "Division of Human Resources" to Navajo Division of Human Services." Reviewed documents. Sufficient.

LEGAL STATUS: Sufficient

SURNAMED BY: {...}

See Document Review signature sheet for date/time

Document No. 025677Date Issued: 11/04/2025**SECTION 164 REVIEW FORM**Title of Document: DHR ENABLING LEGISLATION
AMENDMENT Contact Name: TODDY, REYCITAProgram/Division: DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCESEmail: Reycita.Toddy@dpm.navajo-nsn.gov Phone Number: (928) 871-6375

Check document category: only submit to category reviewers. OMB, OOC and OAG have 5 working days, except BRD has 2 working days, to review and determine whether the document(s) are sufficient or insufficient. If deemed insufficient, a memorandum explaining the insufficiency of the document(s) is required.

Section 164(A)Division Director: *Reycita Toddy* Date: 11/04/2025 ☒ ☐

☒ **Statement of Policy or Positive Law:** Sufficient Insufficient
1. OAG: *up* Date: 11/5/25 ☒ ☐

☐ **IGA, Budget Resolutions, Budget Reallocations or amendments: (OMB and Controller sign ONLY if document expends or receives funds)**

1. OMB:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐
2. OOC:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐
3. OAG:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐

Section 164(B)Division Director: _____ Date: _____ ☐ ☐

☐ **Grant/Funding Agreement or amendment:**

1. OMB:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐
2. OOC:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐
3. OAG:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐

☐ **Subcontract/Contract expending or receiving funds or amendment:**

1. BRD:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐
2. OMB:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐
3. OOC:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐
4. OAG:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐

☐ **Letter of Assurance/M.O.A./M.O.U./Other agreement not expending funds or amendment:**

1. OAG:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐
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☐ **M.O.A. or Letter of Assurance expending or receiving funds or amendment:**

1. OMB:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐
2. OOC:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐
3. OAG:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐

Office of the President/Vice President _____ Date: _____

Document No. 025677

Date Issued: 11/04/2025

SECTION 164 REVIEW FORM

Title of Document: DHR ENABLING LEGISLATION AMENDMENT Contact Name: TODDY, REYCITA

Program/Division: DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Email: Reycita.Toddy@dpm.navajo-nsn.gov Phone Number: (928) 871-6375

Check document category: only submit to category reviewers. OMB, OOC and OAG have 5 working days, except BRD has 2 working days, to review and determine whether the document(s) are sufficient or insufficient. If deemed insufficient, a memorandum explaining the insufficiency of the document(s) is required.

Section 164(A)

Division Director: *Reycita Toddy* Date: 11/04/2025 ☒ ☐

TS ☒

Statement of Policy or Positive Law:

Sufficient Insufficient

1. OAG: _____ Date: _____ ☐ ☐

☐ **IGA, Budget Resolutions, Budget Reallocations or amendments: (OMB and Controller sign ONLY if document expends or receives funds)**

1. OMB:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐
2. OOC:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐
3. OAG:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐

Section 164(B)

Division Director: _____ Date: _____ ☐ ☐

☐ **Grant/Funding Agreement or amendment:**

1. OMB:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐
2. OOC:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐
3. OAG:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐

☐ **Subcontract/Contract expending or receiving funds or amendment:**

1. BRD:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐
2. OMB:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐
3. OOC:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐
4. OAG:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐

☐ **Letter of Assurance/M.O.A./M.O.U./Other agreement not expending funds or amendment:**

1. OAG: _____ Date: _____ ☐ ☐

☐ **M.O.A. or Letter of Assurance expending or receiving funds or amendment:**

1. OMB:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐
2. OOC:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐
3. OAG:	_____	Date: _____	☐	☐

Office of the President/Vice President _____ Date: _____

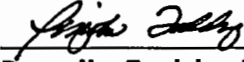


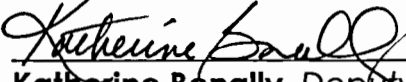
The Navajo Nation **DR. BUU NYGREN** *PRESIDENT*

Yideeskáadi Nitsáhákees | *Think for the Future*

MEMORANDUM

TO : 164 REVIEWERS

FROM : 
Reycita Toddy, Division Director
Division of Human Resources

: 
Katherine Benally, Deputy Director
Division of Human Resources

DATE : November 4, 2025

SUBJECT : **Division of Human Resources**
Enabling Legislation: Document No. 25677

The Division of Human Resources is pleased to notify all 164 Reviewers that our division is proposing a division name change and to be known as the Navajo Division of Human Services going forward. Many times, the Division of Human Resources is often confused with the Department of Personnel Management, as the employment office of the Navajo Nation.

Be informed that the last time the DHR Enabling Legislation was amended and approved was in 2016, wherein, the only action taken was to remove the Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs from DHR which elevated into a Division at the Office of the President and Vice President, no other amendments. With today's division enabling amendment, there are a few DHR department and program title changes which are included in Document No. 25677.

Our division respectfully requests favorable consideration in this long over due amendment. If there are any questions, please contact us or Lorraine at extension 6375.

ATTACHMENT: 164 Review Document No. 25677

cc: 2025.DHR Correspondence File

As of 9-10-25

Departments with Agency Offices

Oversight=B&FC

Legislative Oversight

Office of the President/Vice-President

Navajo_Division of Human
Services Administration

Health, Education
and Human
Services
Committee

**Navajo Office of Vital
Records & Identification**

Office of Navajo
Labor Relations

Department of Child
Support Services

**Navajo Department of
Workforce Development**

Office of Background Investigations

Staff Development and Training Program

**Department of
Human Resources
Management**

**Navajo Occupational
Safety & Health
Administration**

Navajo Nation Television and Film

Department of
Retirement Services

Navajo Nation Band Program

Office of Navajo Women
& Families (Moved to
OPVP)

RESOLUTION OF THE
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

23rd NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- Second Year, 2016

AN ACT

RELATING TO LAW AND ORDER, HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; ESTABLISHING THE NAVAJO NATION VETERANS ADMINISTRATION AND NAVAJO NATION VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL AND AMENDING 2 N.N.C. § 1703 AND 1704

BE IT ENACTED:

Section One. Findings

- 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 Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 401(B)(6), has the power to review and recommend resolutions relating to veterans and veteran services.
- C. The Naabik'íyáti' 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.
- D. The purpose of this legislation is to establish a veterans' administration under the Office of the President and Vice President, which effectively and efficiently provides outreach, services and benefits to veterans.
- E. The legislation also establishes a Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council to recognize veterans and ensure veteran participation in policy and data system development.

- F. Since the time of Naayéé'neizghání and Tóbáíshchíní, Navajos revere and respect warriors in our society.
- G. Native American Tribes throughout North America have participated and contributed to the United States Government through acts of military service in every minor and major military conflict that the United States has been involved in.
- H. Today, Native Americans represent the highest per capita for military enlistment of any ethnic group in the United States Military and the Navajo Nation foresees this to continue of further Native American Generations to come.
- I. It is appropriate to recognize all Navajo veterans of foreign wars and military service men and women who have provided distinguished service and their families.
- J. It is essential to recognize and honor Navajo veterans for their remarkable military service and sacrifice.
- K. The Navajo Code Talkers exemplify the exceptional military service that is unique to the Navajo people through the use of the Navajo language to defend our homeland.
- L. Navajo veterans work tirelessly at the local level to ensure Navajo veterans are recognized for their extraordinary service in protecting our homeland.
- M. There is a need to ensure that Navajo veterans have direct involvement in policy-making decisions regarding veteran's services and benefits;
- N. It is necessary to ensure veterans on the Navajo Nation have access to creating Navajo, federal, and state benefit claims without being hindered by long distance travel.
- O. Veterans' programs and services are a priority for all veterans.
- P. The Executive Director position shall be created through a contract to provide flexibility, stability and continuity.

- Q. The Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs must be a separate Administration within the Executive branch to seek recognition from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.
- R. Navajo veterans face tremendous challenges accessing veterans' benefits and services for health care, housing, education, and employment, often times traveling hundreds of miles round trip from Navajo communities to federal Veterans Administration health care facilities or service offices.
- S. The Office of the President and Vice-President, in collaboration with the Department of Veterans Affairs, Division of Health and the Agency Veteran's Organizations, conducted eight public hearings on the establishment of the veterans' administration at various locations including Fort Defiance, Chinle, To'nanness'dizi, Crownpoint, Tohajiilee, Nenahnezad, Tolani Lake and Shiprock and received numerous comments on the proposal for a veterans' administration.
- T. It is in the best interest of Navajo Nation Veterans that an executive level administration be established to ensure quality services are provided to those Veterans and may partner with other veterans organizations.

Section Two. Establishing the Navajo Veterans Administration

The Navajo Nation hereby establishes the Navajo Veterans Administration within the Navajo Nation Code, Title 2, Sections 1031 et seq., as follows:

TITLE 2. NAVAJO NATION GOVERNMENT

CHAPTER 5. EXECUTIVE BRANCH

SUBCHAPTER 1. Generally

Article 3. Navajo Nation Veterans Administration

§ 1031. Navajo Nation Veterans Administration establishment

- A. The Navajo Nation Veterans Administration is established under the Office of the President and Vice-President of the Navajo Nation. The President of the Navajo Nation, after consultation with the Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council, shall retain by contract for a term of six (6) years an Executive Director who shall head the Veterans Administration.
- B. The Navajo Nation Veterans Administration shall perform its assigned functions as identified in its approved Plan of Operation.

§ 1032. Responsibility and Authority

- A. The Navajo Nation Veterans Act is enacted to establish an executive administration that effectively and efficiently provides outreach, services and benefits to veterans.
- B. In carrying out its responsibilities the Administration, through the Executive Director, is authorized to:

Assist individuals in presenting, providing, and establishing claims, privileges, rights and benefits they may have under Navajo, federal, state, or local law.

- 1. Create outreach services in relation to health, education, employment, housing, and benefits.
- 2. Collect information relating to veterans as such services and facilities available to Veterans.
- 3. Adopt rules deemed necessary to administer this Act.
- 5. Enter into agreements with Veterans' organizations in the Navajo Nation for the purpose of the Navajo Nation Veterans Trust Funds pursuant to 12 N.N.C. Sections 1171 et seq.

6. Adopt necessary procedures to effectively and efficiently provide services to Veterans.
7. Provide administrative support and technical assistance to the Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council.
8. Seek external funding to ensure creation, expansion and improvement of programs serving veterans throughout the Navajo Nation.
9. Coordinate and collaborate within the Navajo Nation government, health care facilities, educational institutions, employment entities, and housing programs providing services for Veterans.
10. Advocate for and promote health care services, educational opportunities, employment opportunities, and housing programs for veterans.

Article 4 Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council

§ 1033. Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council Establishment

- A. The Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council is established under the Executive Branch of the Navajo Nation government.
- B. The purpose and authority of the Veterans Advisory Council is to provide policy advice to the President of the Navajo Nation regarding veteran issues and concerns.
- C. Membership, selection, terms of office
 1. A Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council is established consisting of eleven (11) members.
 2. The Advisory Council shall consist of the ten (10) Agency Veteran Commanders, one ((1) female and one (1) male selected by each Agency, as the designated voting members with the Administration Executive Director acting as a non-voting member.

3. The Advisory Council shall select from its members a Chair.
4. Designated members shall be Veterans selected and/or removed by the respective Chapter Veteran Organizations.
5. The Council shall meet on a quarterly basis and as necessary. Voting members shall receive meeting stipend and travel expense reimbursement pursuant Navajo Nation laws, policies and procedures and budget.

§ 1034. Oversight

The Navajo Nation authorizes the establishment of the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration and the Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council. Legislative oversight shall be provided by the Health, Education, and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, which will have final approval of the respective plans of operation.

§ 1035. Amendments

This Articles may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Navajo Nation Council upon recommendation from the Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council.

Section Three. Amending 2 N.N.C. §§ 1703 and 1704

The Navajo Nation hereby amends the Navajo Nation Code, Title 2, Sections 1703 and 1704 as follows:

TITLE 2. NAVAJO NATION GOVERNMENT

Chapter 5. Executive Branch

SUBCHAPTER 27. Division of Human Resources

§ 1703. Personnel and organization

B. Organization.

1. The Division of Human Resources shall be comprised of programs and administrative components as may be deemed necessary subject to legislative review and approval of the department's and/or program's plans of operation.
2. The Division of Human Resources shall consist of the following departments and offices:
 - a. Department of Personnel Management
 - b. Navajo Department of Workforce Development
 - c. Navajo Department of Retirement Services
 - ~~d. Department of Veterans Affairs.~~
 - e-d. Office of Broadcast Services
 - f-e. Office of Navajo Labor Relations
 - g-f. Office of Navajo Women and Families
 - h-g. Navajo Office of Vital Records
 - i-h. Navajo Occupational Safety and Health Administration
 - j-i. Department of Child Support Enforcement
 - ~~k-j.~~ Staff Development and Training Program
 - ~~l-k.~~ Navajo Nation Band

§ 1704. Responsibility and Authority

A. The Division of Human Resources provides centralized and decentralized human resources program services to the Navajo Nation government. The Division management is accountable to the President of the Navajo Nation for performance of its functional responsibilities in an effective and efficient manner. All management Personnel within the Division shall have sufficient authority established by their plans of operation to perform their job responsibilities not inconsistent with the Master Plan or Navajo law.

~~B. The Department of Veterans Affairs shall develop and implement all veterans program services that are funded by Navajo Nation General Funds in accordance with the definition:~~

~~A Navajo veteran is an individual who is enrolled member of the Navajo Nation and has been discharged under honorable conditions from the United States military service with a DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty.~~

EB. The Executive Director of the Division of Human Resources shall have the following responsibilities and authorities:...

Section Four. Rescinding CO-39-10

The Navajo Nation, in amending the above Title 2, Chapter 5, Subchapter 27, Section 1704, hereby rescinds CO-39-10 which specifically amended Section 1704 B.

Section Five. Effective Date

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

Section Six. 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 Seven. 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 20 in favor and 0 opposed, this 26th day of January 2016.



LoRenzo Bates, Speaker
Navajo Nation Council



Date

Motion: Honorable Jonathan Perry
Second: Honorable Davis Filfred

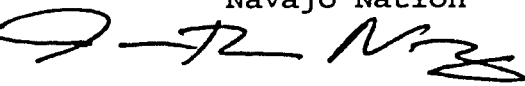
ACTION BY THE NAVAJO NATION PRESIDENT:

1. I hereby sign into law the foregoing legislation, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §1005 (C) (10), on this 13th day of February 2016.



Russell Begaye, President
Navajo Nation

2. I hereby veto the foregoing legislation, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §1005 (C) (11), this _____ day of _____ 2016 for the reason(s) expressed in the attached letter to the Speaker.



Russell Begaye, President
Navajo Nation

NAVAJO NATION

RCS# 359

Winter Session

1/26/2016
03:55:58 PM

Amd# to Amd#	Legislation No. 0006-16	PASSED
MOT Perry	Establishing the NN Veterans	
SEC Filfred	Administration and NN Veterans	
	Advisory Council	

Yea : 20

Nay : 0

Not Voting : 4

Yea : 20

Begay, K	Brown	Jack	Slim
Begay, M	Damon	Perry	Smith
Begay, NM	Daniels	Pete	Tso
BeGaye, N	Filfred	Phelps	Tsosie
Bennett	Hale	Shepherd	Witherspoon

Nay : 0

Not Voting : 4

Yazzie	Chee	Crotty	Bates
--------	------	--------	-------



☐ RESUBMITTAL

NAVAJO NATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

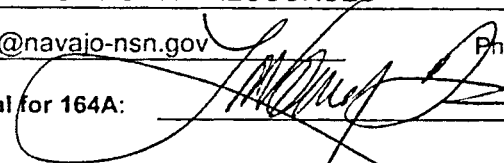
DOCUMENT REVIEW REQUEST FORM



DOJ
12/10/15 @ 1006
DATE / TIME
☒ 7 Day Deadline
DOC #: 005129
SAS #:
UNIT: 459w

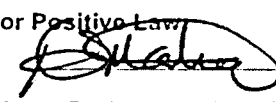
*** FOR NNDJ USE ONLY - DO NOT CHANGE OR REVISE FORM. VARIATIONS OF THIS FORM WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. ***

CLIENT TO COMPLETE			
DATE OF REQUEST: 12-10-15		ENTITY/DIVISION: DHR	
CONTACT NAME: Elise Papp		DEPARTMENT: DNVA	
PHONE NUMBER: 928-871-6958		E-MAIL: epapp@navajo-nsn.gov	
TITLE OF DOCUMENT: Navajo Nation Veterans Act 2016			
DOJ SECRETARY TO COMPLETE			
#143			
DATE/TIME IN UNIT: 12/10/15 @ 10:15		REVIEWING ATTORNEY/ADVOCATE: Chere	
DATE/TIME OUT OF UNIT: 12-10-15 @ 4:05			
DOJ ATTORNEY / ADVOCATE COMMENTS			
legally sufficient - see attached			
REVIEWED BY: (PRINT)	DATE / TIME	SURNAMED BY: (PRINT)	DATE / TIME
Chere Espinosa	12/10/15 3:50	Kandis Martine	12/10/15 3:40 pm
DOJ Secretary Called: email - Elise		for Document Pick Up on 12-10-15 at 4:00 By: gmarzan	
PICKED UP BY: (PRINT)		DATE / TIME:	

Document No. 005129Date Issued: 12/09/2015**SECTION 164 REVIEW FORM**Title of Document: Navajo Nation Veterans Act 2016 Contact Name: PETE, EDSELProgram/Division: DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCESEmail: epete@navajo-nsn.gov Phone Number: 9288716958Division Director Approval for 164A: 

Check document category; only submit to category reviewers. Each reviewer has a maximum 7 working days,
except Business Regulatory Department which has 2 days, to review and determine whether the document(s) are
sufficient or insufficient. If deemed insufficient, a memorandum explaining the insufficiency of the document(s) is required.

Section 164(A) Final approval rests with Legislative Standing Committee(s) or Council

☒	Statement of Policy or Positive Law			Sufficient	Insufficient
☒	1. OAG: 	Date: <u>12/01/15</u>	☒	☐	
☐	IGA, Budget Resolutions, Budget Reallocations or amendments: (OMB and Controller sign ONLY if document expends or receives funds)				
	1. OMB: _____	Date: _____	☐	☐	
	2. OOC: _____	Date: _____	☐	☐	
	3. OAG: _____	Date: _____	☐	☐	

Section 164(B) Final approval rests with the President of the Navajo Nation

☐	Grant/Funding Agreement or amendment:			
	1. Division: _____	Date: _____	☐	☐
	2. OMB: _____	Date: _____	☐	☐
	3. OOC: _____	Date: _____	☐	☐
	4. OAG: _____	Date: _____	☐	☐
☐	Subcontract/Contract expending or receiving funds or amendment:			
	1. Division: _____	Date: _____	☐	☐
	2. BRD: _____	Date: _____	☐	☐
	3. OMB: _____	Date: _____	☐	☐
	4. OOC: _____	Date: _____	☐	☐
	5. OAG: _____	Date: _____	☐	☐
☐	Letter of Assurance/M.O.A./M.O.U./Other agreement not expending funds or amendment:			
	1. Division: _____	Date: _____	☐	☐
	2. OAG: _____	Date: _____	☐	☐
☐	M.O.A. or Letter of Assurance expending or receiving funds or amendment:			
	1. Division: _____	Date: _____	☐	☐
	2. OMB: _____	Date: _____	☐	☐
	3. OOC: _____	Date: _____	☐	☐
	4. OAG: _____	Date: _____	☐	☐

NAVAJO NATION

867

Navajo Nation Council 2026 Summer Session

7/20/2026

03:15:05 PM

Amd# to Amd#

(CONSENT #2)

PASSED

MOT James, V

New Business: Item F.

SEC Notah, N

#0064-26; #0073-26; #0102-26;
#0127-26; #0171-26

Yeas : 21

Nays : 0

Excused : 1

Not Voting : 1

Yea : 21

Begay, H

James, V

Nez, R

Simpson, D

Begay, N

Jesus, B

Nez, T

Tolth, G

Charles-Newton, E

Johnson, C

Notah, N

Yanito, C

Claw, S

Mitchell, A

Parrish, S

Yazzie, C

Crotty, A

Nez, A

Simonson, G

Yazzie, L

Daniels, H

Nay : 0

Excused : 1

Tso, O

Not Voting : 1

Slater, C

Presiding Speaker: Curley, C