LEGISLATION NO: _0239-19____  SPONSOR: Mark Freeland

TITLE: An Action Relating To The Health, Education And Human Services Committee, Resources and Development Committee And The Naabik’íyáti’ Committee; Accepting And Approving The Climate Adaptation Plan For The Navajo Nation As Developed By The Navajo Nation Department Of Fish And Wildlife And Establishing Said Plan As The Official Climate Adaptation Plan Of THE Navajo Nation To Be Implemented And Further Developed Immediately By The Navajo Nation Government

Date posted: August 3, 2019 at 2:22pm

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PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – First Year, 2019

INTRODUCED BY

(Prime Sponsor)

TRACKING NO. 0239-19

AN ACTION RELATING TO THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AND THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTÍ COMMITTEE;

ACCEPTING AND APPROVING THE CLIMATE ADAPTATION PLAN FOR THE NAVAJO NATION AS DEVELOPED BY THE NAVAJO NATION DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE AND ESTABLISHING SAID PLAN AS THE OFFICIAL CLIMATE ADAPTATION PLAN OF THE NAVAJO NATION TO BE IMPLEMENTED AND FURTHER DEVELOPED IMMEDIATELY BY THE NAVAJO NATION GOVERNMENT

WHEREAS:

A. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council exercises oversight over matters concerning the health of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 400 (C) (1)

B. The Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council exercises oversight authority over water, land, grazing, environment, economic and community development. 2 N.N.C. §500 (C).
C. The Naabik’iyáti Committee of the Navajo Nation Council is the standing committee empowered to coordinate and pronounce the official position of the Navajo Nation before non-Navao government federal, state or other entities. 2 N.N.C. § 700 (A).

D. “Climate Change is real. Effects from climate change are happening right now and the Navajo People are witness to its continuing outcome. Analyzing the effects to the Navajo Nation in all aspects, culture and traditions are at risk. Many areas are being jeopardized by climate change, one of those is—natural resources. Navajo culture is centered around the available, yet diminishing, sources of natural resources.” See Exhibit B—“Climate Adaptation Plan for the Navajo Nation” (Page 13).

E. This legislation is a necessary response to the dangers, concerns and threats to our People, our resources and our way of life caused by the established problem of climate change on the Navajo Nation.

F. On March 20-22, and March 27-29, 2018 the Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife (NNDFW) took the initiative to hold the Navajo Nation Community Leaders Climate Change Adaptations Planning Workshop: Establishing Natural Resource Priorities.

G. The focus of these workshops involved listening to grazing officials, land board members and farm board members who were gathered to gain community level insight on natural resource management and compare those insights with the perceptions of the Navajo Nation natural resource professionals. See Exhibit A.

H. The NNDFW climate change workshops had as their goals: brainstorming a list of natural resource issues; creating a priority list of natural resources issues; creating a plan for climate change adaptation planning processes including compiling a list of action steps, timelines and points of contact and create a plan for climate change adaptation planning process with data generated. See Exhibit A.

I. Building on the information gathered in the Navajo Nation Community Leaders Climate Change Workshops in December of 2018, the Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife prepared and released a “Climate Adaptation Plan for the Navajo Nation”. See Exhibit B.
J. The “Climate Adaptation Plan for the Navajo Nation” (Plan) provides outlines
Navajo Nation Priority Lists: Key Vulnerabilities on the Navajo Nation; Goals and
Adaptation Strategies: Assessing Priorities and Risks and Implementation Plans for
Water, Feral Horses, Communication, Enforcement and Compliance, Pollution, Air
Quality and Illegal Dumping and Grazing Management. See Exhibit B.
K. The Plan provides an excellent and viable starting point for the Navajo Nation to
identify and address through government policy the impacts of climate change on the
Navajo Nation.
L. The Navajo Nation through its Naabik’iyáti Committee finds it to be in the best
interest of the Navajo Nation and the Diné to accept and approve the “Climate
Adaptation Plan for the Navajo Nation” (Plan) as attached at Exhibit B and to adopt
the Plan as the official Climate Adaptation Plan for the Navajo Nation to be
implemented and further developed immediately by the Navajo Nation Government.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

The Navajo Nation through its Naabik’iyáti Committee hereby accepts and approves the
“Climate Adaptation Plan for the Navajo Nation” (Plan) as attached at Exhibit B and
adopts the Plan as the official Climate Adaptation Plan for the Navajo Nation to be
implemented and further developed immediately by the Navajo Nation Government.