TITLE: An Action Relating To The Law And Order, Health, Education & Human Services Committees, And The NAABIK’IYATI’ Committee; Stating The Official Position Of The Navajo Nation Concerning Violence Against Women As Presented In Written Testimony To The United States Department Of Justice, Office Of Violence Against Women In Conjunction With The 14TH Annual Government-To-Government Tribal Consultation

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DATE: September 6, 2019

AN ACTION RELATING TO THE LAW AND ORDER, HEALTH, EDUCATION & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEES, AND THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; STATING THE OFFICIAL POSITION OF THE NAVAJO NATION CONCERNING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AS PRESENTED IN WRITTEN TESTIMONY TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE 14TH ANNUAL GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT TRIBAL CONSULTATION.

PURPOSE: Approving the official position of the Navajo Nation concerning violence against women as presented in written testimony to be submitted to the United States Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women as part of the government-to-government tribal consultation.

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 review the proposed resolution in detail.
PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL—FIRST YEAR, 2019

INTRODUCED BY

__________________________________________

Primary Sponsor

TRACKING NO. 0268-19

AN ACTION

RELATING TO THE LAW AND ORDER, HEALTH, EDUCATION & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEES, AND THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTÉ’ COMMITTEE; STATING THE OFFICIAL POSITION OF THE NAVAJO NATION CONCERNING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AS PRESENTED IN WRITTEN TESTIMONY TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE 14TH ANNUAL GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT TRIBAL CONSULTATION.

WHEREAS:

Section One. Authority

A. The Navajo Nation established the Law and Order Committee to, in part, protect the rights and interests of the Navajo People. 2 N.N.C. §600(C)(2)

B. The Navajo Nation established the Health, Education, and Human Services Committee ("HEHSC") as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee and as such empowered HEHSC to review and recommend resolutions relating to health within the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 400(C)(1).

C. The Navajo Nation established the Naabik’íyáti’ Committee as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee. 2 N.N.C. § 700 (A) (2012) see also CJA-03-13.
D. The Naabik’iyáti Committee has the power to coordinate all requests for information, appearances and testimony related to proposed federal legislation. 2 N.N.C. § 701 (A)(6).


Section Two. Findings

A. The United States Department of Justice’s Office of Violence Against Women Government-to-Government Tribal Consultation (U.S. DOJ-OVW) occurred August 21-22 in New Buffalo, Michigan and was held pursuant to Public Law 109-162, Title IX, Section 903 of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2005. See Exhibit B.

B. The deadline for submitting official written testimony to the U.S. DOJ-OVW is September 30, 2019.

C. The official written testimony, as found at Exhibit A, attached, is a collaborative effort between the Executive, Legislative and Judicial branches of the Navajo Nation as well as contributed information and data from various Navajo programs and organizations supporting the efforts of combatting violence against Navajo women, children and law enforcement.

D. The written testimony, as found at Exhibit A, supports the Navajo Nation’s position for the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act because grant funding (i.e. shelter services and victim advocates) and technical support is provided to the Navajo Nation through health and social services programs.

E. Additionally, the reauthorization of the Act would expand protections for children and law enforcement caught in the crossfire of domestic violence disputes, sex trafficking and transitional housing for victims of violence.

F. The Navajo Nation finds it to be in the best interest of the Diné to approve as the official position of the Navajo Nation the written testimony and support for the
Violence Against Women Act as found at Exhibit A.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

The Navajo Nation hereby supports as the official position of the Navajo Nation the written testimony as found at Exhibit A and authorizes it's submission to the United States Department of Justice Office of Violence Against Women.