THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION

LEGISLATION NO: _0096-20_____
SPONSOR: Kee Allen Begay, Jr.

TITLE: An Action Relating to Naabik’íyáti’ Committee: Requesting the Arizona Governor Ducey to include Highway 191 in the Smart Highway Corridor Initiative to install broadband conduit and fiber optic cable

Date posted: April 17, 2020 at 3:46m

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Executive Director
Office of Legislative Services
P.O. Box 3390
Window Rock, AZ 86515
(928) 871-7590

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DATE: April 16, 2020

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION; AN ACTION RELATING TO NAABIK’ÍYÁTÉ’ COMMITTEE; REQUESTING THE ARIZONA GOVERNOR DUCEY TO INCLUDE HIGHWAY 191 IN THE SMART HIGHWAY CORRIDOR INITIATIVE TO INSTALL BROADBAND CONDUIT AND FIBER OPTIC CABLE.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the resolution is for the Navajo Nation to supports Governor Ducey’s Smart Highway Corridor Initiative.

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 to review each proposed resolution in detail.
PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL—Second Year, 2020

INTRODUCED BY

[Signature]
Primary Sponsor

TRACKING NO. 0096-20

AN ACTION

RELATING TO NAABIK’ÍYÁTI’ COMMITTEE; REQUESTING THE ARIZONA
GOVERNOR DUCEY TO INCLUDE HIGHWAY 191 IN THE SMART
HIGHWAY CORRIDOR INITIATIVE TO INSTALL BROADBAND CONDUIT
AND FIBER OPTIC CABLE

WHEREAS:

A. The Navajo Nation established the Naabik’íyáti’ Committee as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee and as such empowered the Naabik’íyáti’ Committee to coordinate all requests for information, appearances, and testimony relating to proposed county, state and federal legislation. 2 N.N.C. §§700 (A) and 701 (A)(6).

B. The Navajo Nation has a government-to-government relationship with the State of Arizona.

C. Governor Ducey announced major new investments in rural broadband. The Governor stated: “We need to connect all parts of our growing state. Rural areas still lack high-speed Internet. Let’s triple our investment in rural Broadband Grants, and also invest $50 million in Smart Highway Corridors to install broadband along our rural interstates. This will make our highways safer and smarter than ever before and pave the way to get all of rural Arizona logged on.” See, Exhibit B.

D. The initiative the Governor speaks about includes “Smart Highway Corridors”: Nearly $50 million in funding for Smart Highway Corridors will enable the Arizona
Department of Transportation to install over 500 miles of broadband conduit and fiber
optic cable along designated highway segments throughout rural areas of the state. The new corridors will improve highway safety while providing future broadband
capacity for smart infrastructure projects in Arizona’s rural and tribal areas.
E. Highway 191 runs through the Navajo Nation and if it were included in the Smart
Highway Corridor, it would provide broadband accessibility to a large part of the
Navajo Nation and rural Arizona.
F. Several Navajo Nation Chapters have spoken with resolutions to request Governor
Ducey include Highway 191 in the Smart Highway Corridor. Those Navajo Nation
Chapter resolutions are attached as Exhibit A and include Nahata Dziil Commission
of Governance, Many Farms Chapter, Ganado Chapter, Round Rock Chapter,
Tselani-Cottonwood Chapter, Blue Gap/Tachee Chapter and Wide Ruins Community
Chapter.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:
A. The Navajo Nation supports Governor Ducey’s Smart Highway Corridor Initiative, attached hereto as Exhibit B.
B. The Navajo Nation hereby authorizes the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council,
President of the Navajo Nation, and their designees, to advocate for the Navajo
Nation’s portion of Highway 191 to be included in the Smart Highway Corridor.