LEGISLATION NO: _0216-20__  SPONSOR: Eugenia Charles-Newton

TITLE: An Action Relating to Health Education and Human Services, Budget and Finance, Law and Order, and Naabik’íyáti’ Committees and Navajo Nation Council; Extending the Fund Lapse Exception to the Annual Appropriation to the Veterans Trust Fund, as set forth in 12 N.N.C. § 1171 (B), Through Navajo Nation Fiscal Year 2024

Date posted: August 28, 2020 at 10:17PM

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DATE: August 28, 2020

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO HEALTH EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES, BUDGET AND FINANCE, LAW AND ORDER, AND NAABIK’ÍYÁTI COMMITTEES AND NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; EXTENDING THE FUND LAPSE EXCEPTION TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION TO THE VETERANS TRUST FUND, AS SET FORTH IN 12 N.N.C. § 1171 (B), THROUGH NAVAJO NATION FISCAL YEAR 2024

PURPOSE: If this resolution is approved, Veteran Trust Fund Housing Program funds will not lapse until the end of FY 2024.

This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committee. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each committee member to review the proposed resolution in detail.
PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION
24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – Second Year, 2020
INTRODUCED BY

Health Education & Human Services Committee
Thence
Budget & Finance Committee
Thence
Law & Order Committee
Thence
Naabik’íyáti’ Committee
Thence
Navajo Nation Council

AN ACTION
RELATING TO HEALTH EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES, BUDGET
AND FINANCE, LAW AND ORDER, AND NAABIK’ÍYÁTI’ COMMITTEES AND
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; EXTENDING THE FUND LAPSE EXCEPTION
TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION TO THE VETERANS TRUST FUND, AS
SET FORTH IN 12 N.N.C. § 1171 (B), THROUGH NAVAJO NATION FISCAL
YEAR 2024

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

A. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is standing committee of
the Navajo Nation Council with the delegated responsibility and authority to review
and recommend resolutions regarding veterans’ services. 2 N.N.C. §400 (C)(3).

B. The Budget and Finance Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation
Council with the delegated responsibility and authority to review and recommend to
the Navajo Nation Council the budgeting, appropriation, investment, and
management of all funds. 2 N.N.C. § 300 (C) (2).

D The Law and Order Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation
Council with the specific power to review and recommend to the Navajo Nation
Council proposed amendments to and enactments of the Navajo Nation Code. 2
N.N.C. § 601 (B)(14).

E. The Naabik'iyáti' Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with the specific power to review proposed legislation which requires final action by the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. § 701 (A)(3).

F. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 102 (A).

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

A. The Navajo Nation Veterans Trust Fund is set forth in the Navajo Nation Code at 12 N.N.C. § 1171 et seq..

B. The establishment section of the Navajo Nation Veterans Trust Fund states as follows:

§ 1171. Establishment

A. The “Navajo Nation Veterans Trust Fund” hereinafter the “Trust Fund” is established with an initial appropriation of six million dollars ($6,000,000.00) from revenues from Undesignated Tribal Reserves. Each year, during the appropriation of the Navajo Nation Comprehensive Budget, the Navajo Nation Council shall budget a sum equal to at least four percent (4%) of any and all projected revenues of the Navajo Nation, including, but not limited to revenues received from taxes, oil and gas, mining and minerals, timber, land rentals, interest and dividends, gain on sale of securities and other revenue producing activities. One-half (1/2) of that four percent (4%) shall be transferred to the Navajo Veteran's Trust Fund to be used as set forth herein. The remaining one-half (1/2) of that four percent (4%) shall be administered by the Department of Navajo Veteran's Affairs (DNVA). Each of the five (5) DNVA Agency offices shall be allocated an equal share of that amount to provide construction of up to fifteen (15) homes equitably in each of their respective Agencies using all possible assistance program funds that such veterans may qualify.
for to construct as many homes as possible and provide minor home
renovations and repairs for Navajo veterans.
B. The annual appropriation authorized above shall continue and for purposes
of this resolution, all unexpended funds shall not lapse back into the
Veterans Trust Fund through Fiscal Year 2017, and shall expire thereafter,
unless specifically re-authorized.
C. Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. CS-56-17, attached as Exhibit 1,
extended 12 N.N.C. § 1171 (B)'s exception to the fund lapse provision for
Veterans Housing Programs funds through Fiscal Year 2020.
D. Through NNVAC-10-20, attached as Exhibit 2, the Navajo Nation Veterans
Advisory Council has recommended that the exception to the fund lapse
provision for Veterans Housing Program funds be extended.
E. It is in the best interest of the Navajo Nation veterans and others effected that
the Navajo Nation specifically re-authorize the continued availability of
unexpended funds in the Navajo Nation Veterans Housing Program at the end
of Fiscal Year 2020 by extending their exemption from lapsing until the end of
Fiscal Year 2024.

SECTION THREE. APPROVAL
The Navajo Nation hereby specifically re-authorizes, as required by 12 N.N.C.
§ 1171 (B), the continued availability of unexpended funds in the Navajo
Nation Veterans Housing Program at the end of Fiscal Year 2020 by extending
such funds exemption from lapsing until the end of Fiscal Year 2024.

SECTION FOUR. EFFECTIVE DATE
This action shall become effective in accord with 2 N.N.C. § 221(B).