LEGISLATION NO: _0156-20__    SPONSOR: Nathaniel Brown

TITLE: An Action Relating to Law and Order; Amending Plan of Operation for the Navajo Nation Department of Emergency Medical Service

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0156-20

DATE: June 30, 2020

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO LAW AND ORDER; AMENDING PLAN OF OPERATION FOR THE NAVAJO NATION DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

PURPOSE: This resolution, if adopted, would amend the Plan of Operation for the Navajo Nation Department of Emergency Medical Service.

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

(Prime Sponsor)

TRACKING NO. 0156-20

AN ACTION

RELATING TO LAW AND ORDER; AMENDING PLAN OF OPERATION FOR THE

NAVAJO NATION DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITIES

A. The Law and Order Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. § 600 (A).

B. The Law and Order Committee has oversight over the Navajo Division of Public Services and all departments thereunder. 2 N.N.C. § 601(C)(1). As oversight, the committee, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 601 (B)(4), is authorized to approve and amend plans of operation for programs over which it exercises oversight authority.

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

A. The Navajo Department of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is established as a department within the Navajo Nation Division of Public Services. EMS provides emergency transport and medical services, among other duties and responsibilities.
B. The Department of Emergency Management has updated its Plan of Operation. The amendments have been reviewed by the Navajo Department of Justice and Office of Legislative Counsel. The proposed amendments are sufficient.

C. The Navajo Nation finds it in the best interest of the Navajo Nation to approve the recommended amendments to the Plan of Operation as submitted by Navajo Nation Department of Emergency Medical Services as attached hereto as Exhibit A.

SECTION THREE. APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO PLAN OF OPERATION
FOR DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

The Navajo Nation hereby approves amendments to the Plan of Operation for the Navajo Nation Department of Emergency Medical Services as attached hereto as Exhibit A.
NAVAJO DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

PLAN OF OPERATION

I. ESTABLISHMENT

There is hereby established the Navajo Department of Emergency Medical Services within the Navajo Division of Public Safety.

II. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The Navajo Department of Emergency Medical Service is a dedicated, progressive service focused on quality care. Expanded advanced life support capabilities and transport services are pre-eminent. The department consists of a well-organized structure of dedicated personnel determined to provide elite services within the Territorial jurisdiction of the Navajo Nation as defined by Title 7 N.C.C. §254 and 18 U.S.C. Section 1151.

III. STAFFING AND ORGANIZATION

A. PERSONNEL

1. All personnel shall be employed and compensated in accordance with the Navajo Nation Personnel Policies Manual.

2. The Department Manager of the Navajo Department of Emergency Medical Service shall be selected by the Division Director of the Navajo Division of Public Safety, in accordance with the established Navajo Nation Personnel Policies Manual.

3. The Navajo Department of Emergency Medical Service shall be staffed sufficiently to accomplish the purposes and objectives as stated herein.

4. The Department Manager shall be authorized to make decisions regarding additional professional, technical and clinical positions as needed to carry out the organizational purposes and objectives as stated herein.
B. ORGANIZATION

The Navajo Department of Emergency Medical Service organizational chart is displayed as “Attachment 1.”

IV. AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

A. The authorities and responsibilities of the Navajo Department of Emergency Medical Service shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. To ensure response to calls requesting medical assistance within the territorial jurisdiction of the Navajo Nation.
2. To utilize mobile radios, portable radios, satellite and cellular phones to communicate with emergency rooms, local law enforcement, fire department and other emergency first responder systems.
3. To provide ground-based transportation with accessibility to air support.
4. To act in good faith by mutual agreement with Navajo Area Indian Health Services and P.L. 93-638 Contract Facilities to carry out agreements and/or contracts.
5. To encourage and assist the community to participate in the Emergency Medical Service System.
6. To maintain the department’s relationship with neighboring public safety systems or governmental agencies (Federal, State, County or Private) for the exchange of service coverage, communication linkages, certification and licensure accountability, funding and reimbursement concerns.
7. To adhere to protection of patient information as mandated by applicable laws including the Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act of 1996 and the Navajo Nation Privacy Act.
8. To promote and conduct public awareness and educational programs.
9. To maintain accountability and proper management over fiscal matters pursuant to established guidelines of the Navajo Nation.
10. To respond to natural or man-made emergency situations in conjunction with Navajo Nation, local, county and state agencies.

11. To establish Mutual Aid Agreements with neighboring public safety or governmental agencies (Navajo Nation, Federal, State, County or Private) for service coverage, and or communication links.

12. To administer internal and external-funded projects in all applicable Navajo Nation and federal laws and policies.

13. To seek and secure funding from Navajo Nation, federal, state, and other agencies.

14. To provide administrative, operational, technical support, and training to all Department of Emergency Medical Service sections.

15. To develop, update, and implement short and long range strategic initiatives, plans, research, evaluation, quality control, and performance improvement activities.

16. To develop and implement a reimbursement system by which to bill for and collect third party revenue, for allowable cost of program, services, functions, and activities.

17. To develop and implement a intra-facility/inter-facility ground transport system. Establish agreements or contracts with governmental agencies (Federal, State, County, Tribal or Private) for such services.

B. The authorities and responsibilities of the Department Manager of the Navajo Department of Emergency Medical Service shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Report to the Division Director.

2. Develop policies, procedures, standards and protocols for an effective, efficient and adequate management for the Department of Emergency Medical Service. To take appropriate actions to achieve the Department’s purpose.

3. Perform periodic review and evaluation for personnel and the Department of Emergency Medical Service programs, services and offices.
4. Develop annual fiscal operating budgets for approval by the Executive Branch of the Navajo Nation, legislative oversight committee, and Navajo Nation Council.

5. Represent the Department of Emergency Medical Service at the Navajo Nation, local, state, and federal levels as authorized.

V. LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT

The Navajo Department of Emergency Medical Service, Navajo Division of Public Safety, shall operate under the legislative oversight of the Law and Order Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, pursuant to the powers granted that Committee in Title 2 N.N.C. § 601 et seq.

VI. AMENDMENTS

A. For purposes of maintaining provisions up-to-date, the department shall review its Plan of Operation at least every five years, beginning January 2020. It shall recommend any necessary amendments.

B. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 601, this Plan of Operation may be amended from time to time by the Law and Order Committee of the Navajo Nation Council as deemed appropriate.