TITLE: An Action Relating To Naabik’íyáti' Committee; Establishing The Naabik’íyáti' Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force

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DATE: September 11, 2020

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION; AN ACTION RELATING TO NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; ESTABLISHING THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' QUADRILATERAL AGREEMENT TASK FORCE

PURPOSE: The purpose of this legislation is to establish a six member the Naabik'íyáti' Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force to negotiate with the United States National Park Service, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs regarding the possible renewal and amendment of the Quadrilateral Agreement, Memorandum of Understanding dated September 16, 1994 and Bridge Agreement dated January 13, 2003

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

______________________________
(Primary Sponsor)

TRACKING NO. 0227-20

AN ACTION

RELATING TO NAABIK’ÍYÁTI’ COMMITTEE; ESTABLISHING THE
NAABIK’ÍYÁTI’ QUADRILATERAL AGREEMENT TASK FORCE

BE IT ENACTED:

Section One. Authority

A. The Navajo Nation Council established the Naabik’íyáti’ as a Navajo Nation standing committee and empowered the committee to “[t]o coordinate all federal, county and state programs with other standing committees and branches of the Navajo Nation government to provide the most effective delivery of services to the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §§ 700(A) and 701(A)(4).

B. The Navajo Nation Council gave Naabik’íyáti’ Committee the authority to delegate its authority as appropriate for efficiency and streamlining of government process to appropriate entities. 2 N.N.C. § 701(B).

Section Two. Findings

A. The Navajo Nation entered into a Memorandum of Agreement, hereinafter referred to as the “Quadrilateral Agreement,” with the National Park Service, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs on September 11, 1970.
B. The Quadrilateral Agreement preserves the Navajo Nation’s rights, privileges, and remedies available by law; authorizes the Navajo Nation to construct, contract for, and manage the Rainbow Bridge Concession Area, subject to approval by the National Park Service; and outlines rights and responsibilities relating to the development, maintenance and management of Antelope Point.

C. In order to further the Quadrilateral Agreement, on September 16, 1994, the Navajo Nation, National Park Service, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to implement the Development Concept Plan for Antelope Point. The MOU allowed the Navajo Nation and National Park Service to develop a Concession Contract and Business Site Lease for Antelope Point Holdings (developer selected for Antelope Point).

D. Based on the Quadrilateral Agreement, the MOU, and execution of the Concession Contract and Business Site Lease, Navajo Nation and National Park Service entered into a Bridge Agreement on January 13, 2003.

E. The Navajo Nation Council through Resolution CS-70-20 “request[ed] that the National Park Service, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs extend the expiration of the Quadrilateral Agreement, Memorandum of Understanding dated September 16, 1994, and Bridge Agreement dated January 13, 2003 for one year such that the Quadrilateral Agreement, Memorandum of Understanding, and Bridge Agreement expire on September 10, 2021.”

F. The Navajo Nation understands the need to examine whether the Quadrilateral Agreement, Memorandum of Understanding dated September 16, 1994, and Bridge Agreement Dated January 13, 2003 should be renewed or amended. Therefore, the Navajo Nation determines that the Naabik’íyáti’ Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force should be created to examine the issues involved with renewal or amendments of these agreements. If the Naabik’íyáti’ Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force determines that the agreements should be renewed or amended, the Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force shall enter into negotiations with the United States National
Park Service, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Reports on negotiation efforts shall be presented to the Naabik’íyáti’ Committee on a periodic basis. Renewal or amendment of the Quadrilateral Agreement, Memorandum of Understanding dated September 16, 1994 and Bridge Agreement dated January 13, 2003 shall be presented to the Navajo Nation Council for action.

Section Two. Naabik’íyáti’ Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force Establishment

A. The Navajo Nation hereby establishes the Naabik’íyáti’ Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force.

B. The Naabik’íyáti’ Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force shall recommend whether the Quadrilateral Agreement, Memorandum of Understanding dated September 16, 1994 and Bridge Agreement dated January 13, 2003 should be renewed or amended. If the recommendation is to renew and/or amend the agreements, the Naabik’íyáti’ Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force shall delineate the recommended amendments.

C. The Naabik’íyáti’ Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force shall:

1. Meet with and otherwise consult with the affected Chapters regarding the possible renewal and amendment of the Quadrilateral Agreement, Memorandum of Understanding dated September 16, 1994 and Bridge Agreement dated January 13, 2003;

2. Negotiate with the United States National Park Service, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs regarding the regarding the possible renewal and amendment of the Quadrilateral Agreement, Memorandum of Understanding dated September 16, 1994 and Bridge Agreement dated January 13, 2003;

3. Report bimonthly to the Naabik’íyáti’ Committee the Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force activities;
4. Provide a final report to the Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the Naabik'íyáti' Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force findings, conclusions and recommendations.

D. The Naabik'íyáti' Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force shall consist of six members.

E. Three (3) members shall be members of the Navajo Nation Council selected by the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council. The Navajo Nation Council Speaker appoints the following to the Naabik'íyáti' Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force:

1. 
2. 
3. 

F. One (1) member of the Naabik'íyáti' Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force shall be the Division Director of the Division of Economic Development or his designee.

G. One (1) member of the Naabik'íyáti' Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force shall be the Division Director of the Division of Natural Resources or his designee.

H. One (1) member of the Naabik'íyáti' Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force shall be an attorney from the Navajo Nation Department of Justice selected by the Navajo Nation Attorney General.

I. The Naabik'íyáti' Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force by majority vote shall select a chairperson and vice-chairperson at its first meeting. The chairperson and vice-chairperson shall serve at the pleasure of the Naabik'íyáti' Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force; replacement shall be by majority vote.

J. The Naabik'íyáti' Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force shall establish a regular meeting day(s) of the month and shall set special meetings as needed.

Section Three. Naabik'íyáti' Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force Term

The Naabik'íyáti' Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force shall exist until its assigned tasks are completed.

Section Four. Directives
A. The Speaker’s Chief of Staff shall assign one policy analyst to assist the Naabik’íyáti’ Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force.

B. The Legislative Services Executive Director shall assign one Office of Legislative Services staffer to assist the Naabik’íyáti’ Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force.

C. The Speaker shall determine a Naabik’íyáti’ Quadrilateral Agreement Task Force budget and identify the funds.