

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0031-20__

SPONSOR: Otto Tso

TITLE: An Action Relating To to Naabik'iyáti'; Supporting request of the Navajo-Hopi Land Commission asking the United State Congress to convene field hearing for purposes of addressing continuing needs of Navajo relocatees, residents of the Former Bennett Freeze Area and communities affected by relocation activities

Date posted: February 7, 2020 at 4:55 PM

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0031-20

DATE: February 7, 2020

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO NAABIK'ÍYÁTT; SUPPORTING REQUEST OF THE NAVAJO -HOPI LAND COMMISSION ASKING THE UNITED STATE CONGRESS TO CONVENE FIELD HEARING FOR PURPOSES OF ADDRESSING CONTINUING NEEDS OF NAVAJO RELOCATEES, RESIDENTS OF THE FORMER BENNETT FREEZE AREA AND COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY RELOCATION ACTIVITIES

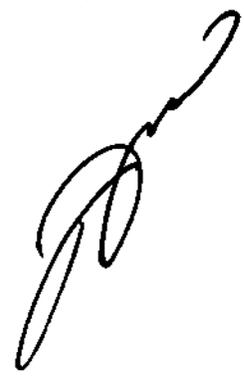
PURPOSE: This resolution supports the Navajo-Hopi Land Commission in asking the United State Congress to convene field hearing for purposes of addressing continuing needs of Navajo relocatees, residents of the Former Bennett Freeze Area and communities affected by relocation activities.

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



0778 730
(Prime Sponsor)



TRACKING NO. 0031-20

AN ACTION
RELATING TO NAABIK'ÍYÁTI'; SUPPORTING REQUEST OF THE NAVAJO -HOPI
LAND COMMISSION ASKING THE UNITED STATE CONGRESS TO CONVENE FIELD
HEARING FOR PURPOSES OF ADDRESSING CONTINUING NEEDS OF NAVAJO
RELOCATEES, RESIDENTS OF THE FORMER BENNETT FREEZE AREA AND
COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY RELOCATION ACTIVITIES

WHEREAS:

1. The United States Congress on December 22, 1974 enacted the Navajo and Hopi Indian Land Settlement Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-531). The impact of this act has been devastating as the law ultimately required in the relocation of residents from ancestral lands.
2. The Navajo Nation Council created the Navajo-Hopi Land Commission in 1980. The commission was delegated the authority to oversee land selection and land exchange activities mandated under federal law.
3. Litigation between the Navajo and Hopi tribes resulted in development restrictions on 1.5 million acres of land under dispute. The acreage became known as the "Bennett Freeze Area." In 2009, after 43 years, this restriction on development was lifted.
4. The Navajo-Hopi Land Commission is respectfully requesting that field hearings be convened for purposes of addressing the continuing needs of Navajo families subject

1 to relocation, issues, concerns and needs of communities impacted by relocation, and
2 issues faced by residents of the Former Bennett Freeze Area. See NHLCAU-8-19,
3 resolution of the Navajo-Hopi Land Commission, attached hereto as EXHIBIT A.
4

5 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

6 The Navajo Nation supports the Navajo-Hopi Land Commission in its urgent request
7 that the United States Congress convene field hearings addressing the continuing issues
8 resulting from the resolution of Navajo families under federal mandates, issues which
9 include critical needs of relocates, communities impacted by relocation and continuing
10 and existing needs of Navajo residents in the Former Bennett Freeze Area.
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