

THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: \_0074-19\_\_

SPONSOR: Seth Damon

**TITLE: An Action Relating To NAABIK'IYATI Committee And The Navajo Nation Council; Confirming The Nominations Of The Speaker Of The Navajo Nation Council And The Navajo Nation President To The Eastern Navajo Land Commission**

*Date posted:* March 21, 2019 at 7:46 PM

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET  
Tracking No. 0074-19

**DATE:** March 19, 2019

**SUBJECT:** AN ACT RELATING TO NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; CONFIRMING THE NOMINATIONS OF THE SPEAKER OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL AND THE NAVAJO NATION PRESIDENT TO THE EASTERN NAVAJO LAND COMMISSION

**PURPOSE:** To confirm the Speaker's appointment on the Eastern Navajo Land Commission

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 review the proposed resolution in detail.-

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: SNOTAH  
Website Posting Time/Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Posting End Date: 3/26/2019  
Eligible for Action: 3/27/2019

1 PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION

2 24<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – First Year, 2019

3 INTRODUCED BY

4  
5   
6 (Prime Sponsor)

7  
8 TRACKING NO. 0074-19

9  
10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE AND THE NAVAJO NATION  
12 COUNCIL; CONFIRMING THE NOMINATIONS OF THE SPEAKER OF THE  
13 NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL AND THE NAVAJO NATION PRESIDENT TO THE  
14 EASTERN NAVAJO LAND COMMISSION

15  
16 BE IT ENACTED:

17  
18 **Section One. Authorities**

- 19 A. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation. 2  
20 N.N.C. §102.
- 21 B. A proposed resolution that requires final action by the Navajo Nation Council  
22 shall be assigned to the Naabik'iyati' Committee before it is heard by the Navajo  
23 Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. §164 (A)(9),
- 24 C. The Eastern Navajo Land Commission "shall be Navajo Nation Council  
25 Delegates representing the so-called Checkerboard Area of the Navajo Nation,  
26 nominated by the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council and confirmed by the  
27 Navajo Nation Council." 2 N.N.C. § 862(B).
- 28 D. The six (6) representatives on the Eastern Navajo Land Commission shall consist  
29 of one Navajo Nation Council member from each of the following areas:  
30

1. Area I: Counselor, Huerfano and Nageezi Chapters;
2. Area II: Becenti, Crownpoint, Lake Valley, Nahodishgish, Standing Rock and  
3 White Rock Chapters;
4. Area III: Ojo Encino, Pueblo Pintado, Torreon/Star Lake and White Horse Lake  
5 Chapters;
6. Area IV: Baca/Prewitt, Casamero Lake, Iyanbito, Smith Lake, Littlewater,  
7 Mariano Lake, Pinedale, and Thoreau Chapters;
8. Area V: Bread Springs, Chichiltah, Rock Springs, Churchrock, Manuelito, Red  
9 Rock, and Tsayatoh Chapters;
10. Area VI: Alamo, Ramah and Tohajiilee Chapters.

11 2 N.N.C. § 862(B).

## 13 **Section 2. Findings**

- 14 A. The Navajo Nation Council was reduced in membership from 88 delegates to 24  
15 delegates, which required a change in standing committees, Resolution C0-45-12,  
16 but also resulted in a realignment of Chapter representation which currently  
17 provides for five (5) Council Delegates representing Chapters in the Eastern  
18 Agency, otherwise known as the so-called Checkerboard Area. The previous  
19 resolution titled, "Confirming the Nominations of the Speaker of the Navajo  
20 Nation Council and the Navajo Nation President to the Eastern Navajo Land  
21 Commission" first implemented the chapter realignment for the Eastern Navajo  
22 Land Commission, and is attached as **Exhibit A**.
- 23 B. Each of the Navajo Nation Council Delegates shall serve as a member of the  
24 Commission concurrent with his or her term as a Council Delegate and until his or  
25 her successor is confirmed. 2 N.N.C. § 862(D).
- 26 C. The Commission shall appoint a Chairperson and Vice- Chairperson from among  
27 its members, and may establish committees from among its members if deemed  
28 appropriate by the Commission to facilitate the business of the Commission. 2  
29 N.N.C. § 862(E).

1 D. The powers and duties of the Eastern Navajo Land Commission are found at 2  
2 N.N.C. § 863 (A-J).  
3

4 **Section Three. Nominations to the Eastern Navajo Land Commission**

5 A. The Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council nominates the following Navajo  
6 Nation Council Delegates to the Eastern Navajo Land Commission pursuant to 2  
7 N.N.C. § 862(B) and in consideration of the Chapter representation realignment  
8 as a result of the reduction in membership of the Navajo Nation Council:

- 9 1. Area I - now included in Areas II and III.
- 10 2. Area II - Mark Freeland (Becenti, Lake Valley, Nahodisgish, Standing Rock,  
11 White Rock, Huerfano, Nageezi, Crownpoint)
- 12 3. Area III - Daniel Tso (Littlewater, Pueblo Pintado, Torreon, Whitehorse Lake,  
13 Baca/Prewitt, Casamero Lake, Ojo Encino, Counselor)
- 14 4. Area IV - Edmund Yazzie (Churchrock, Iyanbito, Mariano Lake, Pinedale, Smith  
15 Lake, Thoreau)
- 16 5. Area V - Seth Damon (Baahaali, Chichiltah, Manuelito, Red Rock, Rock Springs,  
17 Tsayatoh)
- 18 6. Area VI – Jamie Henio (Alamo, Ramah, Tohajiilee)

19 B. The nomination letter by the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council is attached as  
20 **Exhibit B**.

21 C. The Navajo Nation President nominates \_\_\_\_\_.

22 **Section Four. Confirmation of Eastern Navajo Land Commission**

23 A. The Navajo Nation confirms the nominations of the Speaker of the Navajo Nation  
24 Council to the Eastern Navajo Land Commission, as:

- 25 1. Area II - Mark Freeland (Becenti, Lake Valley, Nahodisgish, Standing Rock,  
26 White Rock, Huerfano, Nageezi, Crownpoint)
- 27 2. Area III - Daniel Tso (Littlewater, Pueblo Pintado, Torreon, Whitehorse Lake,  
28 Baca/Prewitt, Casamero Lake, Ojo Encino, Counselor)
- 29 3. Area IV - Edmund Yazzie (Churchrock, Iyanbito, Mariano Lake, Pinedale,  
30 Smith Lake, Thoreau)

1 4. Area V - Seth Damon (Baahaali, Chichiltah, Manuelito, Red Rock, Rock  
2 Springs, Tsayatoh)

3 5. Area VI – Jamie Henio (Alamo, Ramah, Tohajiilee)

4 B. The Navajo Nation Council confirms the Navajo Nation President’s nomination  
5 of \_\_\_\_\_ to the Eastern Navajo Land Commission.

6 C. The Navajo Nation Council Delegates confirmed to the Eastern Navajo  
7 Commission shall serve as a member of the Commission concurrent with their  
8 term as a Council Delegate and until a successor is confirmed. 2 N.N.C. §862  
9 (D).

10 D. The Navajo Nation Presidential nominee shall serve as a member of the  
11 Commission until a successor is confirmed.