

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0129-19_____

SPONSOR: Seth Damon

TITLE: An Act Relating To The Naabik'ívatí Committee; Showing Gratitude And Appreciation To Public Power Utilities And Their Communities For Supporting Lineworkers To Participate In The Light Up Navajo Initiative To Extend Electricity To Navajo Families Living Without

Date posted: May 24, 2019 at 5:46pm

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Office of Legislative Services
P.O. Box 3390
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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. D129-19

DATE: May 15, 2019

AN ACT RELATING TO THE NAABIK'YATI COMMITTEE; SHOWING GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION TO PUBLIC POWER UTILITIES AND THEIR COMMUNITIES FOR SUPPORTING LINEWORKERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LIGHT UP NAVAJO INITIATIVE TO EXTEND ELECTRICITY TO NAVAJO FAMILIES LIVING WITHOUT

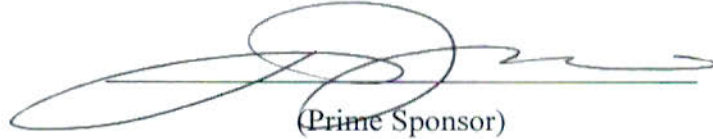
PURPOSE: Expressing appreciation on behalf of the Navajo Nation to all participants in the Light Up Navajo Initiative to extend electric service throughout Navajo Nation.

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: 2 weeks
Website Posting Time/Date: _____
Posting End Date: 5-29-19
Eligible for Action: 5-30-19

1 PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
2 24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – First Year, 2019

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 
5
6 (Prime Sponsor)

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8 TRACKING NO. 0129-19

9
10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO THE NAABIK'İYATI COMMITTEE; SHOWING GRATITUDE AND
12 APPRECIATION TO PUBLIC POWER UTILITIES AND THEIR COMMUNITIES FOR
13 SUPPORTING LINEWORKERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LIGHT UP NAVAJO
14 INITIATIVE TO EXTEND ELECTRICITY TO NAVAJO FAMILIES LIVING WITHOUT

15
16 BE IT ENACTED:

17
18 **WHEREAS:**

- 19 A. The Naabik'iyáti' Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council. A
20 proposed resolution that requires final action by the Naabik'iyáti' Committee shall be
21 assigned to the standing committee having authority over the subject matter at issue and
22 the Naabik'iyáti' Committee. 2 N.N.C. §§ 164(A)(9) and 700(A).
- 23 B. The Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) was established in 1959 to provide water
24 service to the Navajo Nation. Since then, the NTUA's authorization and purposes have
25 expanded into electrification, natural gas, water, wastewater, communications,
26 information systems, renewables and utility generation services. Over the last ten years
27 NTUA has focused on ensuring that many of the unserved and underserved Navajo
28 Nation homes have access to the electric grid. On average, the NTUA electric line crews
29 connect more than 480 families to the electric grid annually.

- 1 C. In June 2017, Walter W. Haase, the General Manager of NTUA, was appointed the
2 Chairman of the American Public Power Association (APPA), a service organization for
3 the more than 2,000 U.S. community-owned electric utilities that serve more than 47
4 million Americans. As part of his APPA Chairman duties, Mr. Haase spoke at APPA
5 events and to other utilities across America whereby he shared NTUA's mission to
6 connect the more than 15,000 Navajo homes on the Navajo Nation without access to the
7 electric grid.
- 8 D. Members of the APPA were astonished that more than 15,000 homes in the United States
9 were without electric service and wanted to help. As such, NTUA and APPA
10 collaboratively created a mutual-aid initiative called Light Up Navajo! to recruit
11 primarily municipal utilities and cooperatives across the United States to travel to the
12 Navajo Nation and join forces with NTUA to connect more Navajo homes to the electric
13 grid.
- 14 E. NTUA and APPA staff have been working diligently to make the first-ever Light Up
15 Navajo! initiative a success. 28 utilities and their communities: Arizona Public Service
16 Company (AZ), City of Fallon (NV), City of Painesville (OH), City of St. George Energy
17 Services (UT), City of Milford Electric (DE), City of Wadsworth Electrical Department
18 (OH), Conway Corporation (AR), Delaware Municipal Electric Corporation (DE),
19 Farmington Electric Utility System (NM), Grand River Dam Authority (OK), Greenville
20 Electric Utility System (TX), Heber Light and Power (UT), Lawrenceburg Municipal
21 Utilities (IN), Lehi City Power (UT), Littleton Electric Light Department (MA), Murray
22 City Power (UT), Paxton Municipal Light Department (MA), Piqua Power Systems
23 (OH), Public Service Company of New Mexico (NM), Rochelle Municipal Utilities (IL),
24 Sacramento Municipal Utility District (CA), Salt River Project (AZ), Santa Clara City
25 Power (UT), Scottsburg Electric Utility (IN), Sterling Municipal Light Department
26 (MA), Town of Smyrna (DE), Washington City Power (UT), and West Boylston
27 Municipal Lighting (MA) across 13 states and over 125 external non-NTUA volunteers,
28 along with over 400 NTUA volunteers, will participate in the 2019 Light Up Navajo!
29 initiative.
30

1 F. All share one goal: To connect at least 250 Navajo families to the electric grid for the
2 first time during a six week period in April and May of 2019. The Navajo families
3 impacted are throughout the Navajo Nation and located within the States of Arizona,
4 New Mexico and Utah.

5 G. The volunteers (both external and NTUA volunteers) that are participating in the Light
6 Up Navajo! initiative have committed time away from their jobs, home communities and
7 families so that Navajo families will have electricity for the first time. The Navajo Nation
8 wishes to extend its gratitude and respect to those utilities and communities that are
9 helping light up Navajo homes.

10
11 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

12 A. The Navajo Nation through the Navajo Nation Council's Naabik'iyáti' Committee,
13 hereby expresses its deepest and heartfelt appreciation to the following utilities and
14 communities, as well as their volunteers, participating in the Light Up Navajo!
15 initiative and helping to extend electric services to Navajo homes throughout the
16 Navajo Nation: Arizona Public Service Company (AZ), City of Fallon (NV), City
17 of Painesville (OH), City of St. George Energy Services (UT), City of Milford
18 Electric (DE), City of Wadsworth Electrical Department (OH), Conway
19 Corporation (AR), Delaware Municipal Electric Corporation (DE), Farmington
20 Electric Utility System (NM), Grand River Dam Authority (OK), Greenville
21 Electric Utility System (TX), Heber Light and Power (UT), Lawrenceburg
22 Municipal Utilities (IN), Lehi City Power (UT), Littleton Electric Light Department
23 (MA), Murray City Power (UT), Paxton Municipal Light Department (MA), Piqua
24 Power Systems (OH), Public Service Company of New Mexico (NM), Rochelle
25 Municipal Utilities (IL), Sacramento Municipal Utility District (CA), Salt River
26 Project (AZ), Santa Clara City Power (UT), Scottsburg Electric Utility (IN),
27 Sterling Municipal Light Department (MA), Town of Smyrna (DE), Washington
28 City Power (UT), and West Boylston Municipal Lighting (MA). Their sincerest
29 commitment to extend electricity to the homes of Navajo families will forever be
30 remembered by the Navajo Nation. Ah'ee'e.