

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



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.

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: Johnson
Website Posting Time/Date: _____
Posting End Date: 07-15-20
Eligible for Action: 07-16-20

1 PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
2 24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- Second Year, 2020
3 INTRODUCED BY

4
5
6
7 _____
(Prime Sponsor)



8
9
10 TRACKING NO. 0156-20

11 AN ACTION
12 RELATING TO LAW AND ORDER; AMENDING PLAN OF OPERATION FOR THE
13 NAVAJO NATION DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE
14

15
16 BE IT ENACTED:

17
18 SECTION ONE. AUTHORITIES

- 19 A. The Law and Order Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation
20 Council. 2 N.N.C. § 600 (A).
21 B. The Law and Order Committee has oversight over the Navajo Division of Public
22 Services and all departments thereunder. 2 N.N.C. § 601(C)(1). As oversight, the
23 committee, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 601 (B)(4), is authorized to approve and amend
24 plans of operation for programs over which it exercises oversight authority.

25
26 SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- 27 A. The Navajo Department of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is established as a
28 department within the Navajo Nation Division of Public Services. EMS provides
29 emergency transport and medical services, among other duties and responsibilities.
30

1 B. The Department of Emergency Management has updated its Plan of Operation. The
2 amendments have been reviewed by the Navajo Department of Justice and Office of
3 Legislative Counsel. The proposed amendments are sufficient.

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

7
8 **SECTION THREE. APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO PLAN OF OPERATION**
9 **FOR DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

10 The Navajo Nation hereby approves amendments to the Plan of Operation for the
11 Navajo Nation Department of Emergency Medical Services as attached hereto as Exhibit
12 A.

2 **NAVAJO DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE**
3 **PLAN OF OPERATION**
4

5 **I. ESTABLISHMENT**

6 There is hereby established the Navajo Department of Emergency Medical
7 Services within the Navajo Division of Public Safety.
8

9 **II. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES**

10 The Navajo Department of Emergency Medical Service is a dedicated,
11 progressive service focused on quality care. Expanded advanced life support capabilities
12 and transport services are pre-eminent. The department consists of a well-organized
13 structure of dedicated personnel determined to provide elite services within the Territorial
14 jurisdiction of the Navajo Nation as defined by Title 7 N.C.C. §254 and 18 U.S.C.
15 Section 1151.
16

17 **III. STAFFING AND ORGANIZATION**

18 **A. PERSONNEL**

- 19 1. All personnel shall be employed and compensated in accordance with the
20 Navajo Nation Personnel Policies Manual.
- 21 2. The Department Manager of the Navajo Department of Emergency Medical
22 Service shall be selected by the Division Director of the Navajo Division of
23 Public Safety, in accordance with the established Navajo Nation Personnel
24 Policies Manual.
- 25 3. The Navajo Department of Emergency Medical Service shall be staffed
26 sufficiently to accomplish the purposes and objectives as stated herein.
- 27 4. The Department Manager shall be authorized to make decisions regarding
28 additional professional, technical and clinical positions as needed to carry out the
29 organizational purposes and objectives as stated herein.
30

1
2 **B. ORGANIZATION**

3 The Navajo Department of Emergency Medical Service organizational chart
4 is displayed as "Attachment 1."
5

6 **IV. AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY**

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

- 9 1. To ensure response to calls requesting medical assistance within the
10 territorial jurisdiction of the Navajo Nation.
- 11 2. To utilize mobile radios, portable radios, satellite and cellular phones to
12 communicate with emergency rooms, local law enforcement, fire department and
13 other emergency first responder systems.
- 14 3. To provide ground-based transportation with accessibility to air support.
- 15 4. To act in good faith by mutual agreement with Navajo Area Indian Health
16 Services and P.L. 93-638 Contract Facilities to carry out agreements and or
17 contracts.
- 18 5. To encourage and assist the community to participate in the Emergency
19 Medical Service System.
- 20 6. To maintain the department's relationship with neighboring public safety
21 systems or governmental agencies (Federal, State, County or Private) for the
22 exchange of service coverage, communication linkages, certification
23 and licensure accountability, funding and reimbursement concerns.
- 24 7. To adhere to protection of patient information as mandated by applicable
25 laws including the Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act of 1996 and
26 the Navajo Nation Privacy Act.
- 27 8. To promote and conduct public awareness and educational programs.
- 28 9. To maintain accountability and proper management over fiscal matters
29 pursuant to established guidelines of the Navajo Nation.
30

1 10. To respond to natural or man-made emergency situations in conjunction
2 with Navajo Nation, local, county and state agencies.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

21
22 **B. The authorities and responsibilities of the Department Manager of the Navajo**
23 **Department of Emergency Medical Service shall include, but are not limited to, the**
24 **following:**

25 1. Report to the Division Director.

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

29 3. Perform periodic review and evaluation for personnel and the Department of
30 Emergency Medical Service programs, services and offices. -

1 4. Develop annual fiscal operating budgets for approval by the Executive Branch
2 of the Navajo Nation, legislative oversight committee, and Navajo Nation
3 Council.-

4 5. Represent the Department of Emergency Medical Service at the Navajo
5 Nation, local, state, and federal levels as authorized.
6

7 **V. LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT**

8 The Navajo Department of Emergency Medical Service, Navajo Division of
9 Public Safety, shall operate under the legislative oversight of the Law and Order
10 Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, pursuant to the powers granted that Committee
11 in Title 2 N.N.C. § 601 *et seq.*
12

13 **VI. AMENDMENTS**

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

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