

THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: \_0242-19\_\_\_\_\_

SPONSOR: Pernell Halona

**TITLE: An Action Relating To The Health, Education & Human Services Committee, And The Naabik'iyáti' Committee; Requesting New Mexico And Arizona Delegations To Sponsor A Bill Amending 25 U.S.C 13, "The Snyder Act," To Authorize Forward Funding Of The Bureau Of Indian Education Higher Education Grant Program**

***Date posted:*** August 6, 2019 at 2:19pm

Digital comments may be e-mailed to [comments@navajo-nsn.gov](mailto:comments@navajo-nsn.gov)

Written comments may be mailed to:

Executive Director  
Office of Legislative Services  
P.O. Box 3390  
Window Rock, AZ 86515  
(928) 871-7590

**Comments may be made in the form of chapter resolutions, letters, position papers, etc. Please include your name, position title, address for written comments; a valid e-mail address is required. Anonymous comments will not be included in the Legislation packet.**

**Please note:** This digital copy is being provided for the benefit of the Navajo Nation chapters and public use. Any political use is prohibited. All written comments received become the property of the Navajo Nation and will be forwarded to the assigned Navajo Nation Council standing committee(s) and/or the Navajo Nation Council for review. Any tampering with public records are punishable by Navajo Nation law pursuant to 17 N.N.C. §374 *et. seq.*

**LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET**

**Tracking No.** 0242-19

**DATE:** August 5, 2019

**TITLE OF RESOLUTION:** AN ACTION RELATING TO THE HEALTH, EDUCATION & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, AND THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; REQUESTING NEW MEXICO AND ARIZONA DELEGATIONS TO SPONSOR A BILL AMENDING 25 U.S.C 13, "THE SNYDER ACT," TO AUTHORIZE FORWARD FUNDING OF THE BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION HIGHER EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM

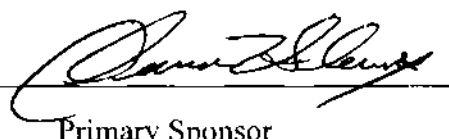
**PURPOSE:** If approved, this resolution will request New Mexico and Arizona Delegations to sponsor amending 25 U.S.C. 13 "The Snyder Act," to authorize forward funding of the Bureau of Indian Education Higher Education Grant Program.

**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: 2800  
Website Posting Time/Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Posting End Date: 8/11/19  
Eligible for Action: 8/12/19

1 PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION  
2 24<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL—FIRST YEAR, 2019

3 INTRODUCED BY

4  
5 

6 Primary Sponsor

7 TRACKING NO. 0242-19

8 AN ACTION

9 RELATING TO THE HEALTH, EDUCATION & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE,  
10 AND THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; REQUESTING NEW MEXICO AND  
11 ARIZONA DELEGATIONS TO SPONSOR A BILL AMENDING 25 U.S.C 13, "THE  
12 SNYDER ACT," TO AUTHORIZE FORWARD FUNDING OF THE BUREAU OF  
13 INDIAN EDUCATION HIGHER EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM  
14

15  
16 WHEREAS:

17 **Section One. Authority**

- 18 A. The Navajo Nation established the Health, Education, and Human Services  
19 Committee ("HEHSC") as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee and as such  
20 empowered HEHSC to review and recommend resolutions relating to education  
21 within the Navajo Nation 2 N.N.C. § 400(C)(1).  
22  
23 B. The Navajo Nation established the Naa'bik'iyáti' Committee as a Navajo Nation  
24 Council standing committee. 2 N.N.C. § 700 (A).  
25  
26 C. The Naa'bik'iyáti' Committee has the power to coordinate all federal, county and state  
27 programs with other standing committees and branches of the Navajo Nation  
28 government to provide the most efficient delivery of services to Navajo Nation. 2  
29 N.N.C. § 701(A)(4).  
30  
D. The Navajo Nation has a government-to-government relationship with the United  
States of America, Treaty of 1868, Aug. 12, 1868, 15 Stat. 667.

1 **Section Two. Findings**

- 2 A. The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) operates the Higher Education Grant ("Grant")  
3 as authorized by 25 U.S.C 13, "The Snyder Act," enacted on November 2, 1921.
- 4 B. The Navajo Nation provides college financial assistance and scholarships from the  
5 Grant directly to Navajo college students through a P.L. 93-638 contract; and  
6 throughout Indian Country, numerous Indian Tribes have administered their own  
7 scholarship program through P.L. 93-638 contracts.
- 8 C. The Federal government routinely operates under continuing resolutions. As such,  
9 Grant funding is delayed. Consequently, college scholarship and financial assistance  
10 payments, and institutional disbursements are delayed. This is problematic for the  
11 Navajo and Indian college students who depend on these funds to pay for tuition,  
12 books, and room and board.
- 13 D. There is a precedent for forward funding of Federal Indian education programs:  
14 Bureau of Indian Education funded schools, including P.L. 93-638 and P.L. 100-297  
15 schools, and Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities, are forward funded  
16 through 25 U.S.C. § 2010 and 25 U.S.C. § 1810 respectively.
- 17 E. The proposed bill will amend 25 U.S.C 13, commonly known as "The Snyder Act,"  
18 by adding the following: "Amounts appropriated in an appropriation Act for any  
19 fiscal year to carry out the Bureau of Indian Education Higher Education Grant  
20 Program (Scholarships and Adult Education, Special Education Scholarships, and the  
21 Science Post Graduate Scholarship Fund) shall be available for obligation on July 1  
22 of such fiscal year and shall remain available until September 30 of the succeeding  
23 fiscal year." See draft bill attached as **Exhibit A**.
- 24 F. It is in Navajo Nation's best interest to request New Mexico and Arizona Delegations  
25 to sponsor a bill amending 25 U.S.C 13, "The Snyder Act," to authorize forward  
26 funding of the Bureau of Indian Education Higher Education Grant Program.  
27  
28  
29

30 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30

A. The Navajo Nation hereby requests New Mexico and Arizona Delegations to sponsor a bill amending 25 U.S.C 13, "The Snyder Act," to authorize forward funding of the Bureau of Indian Education Higher Education Grant Program, and urges the United States Congress to pass and enact this legislation.

B. The Navajo Nation hereby authorizes the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council, President of the Navajo Nation, the Navajo Nation Washington Office, and their respective designees, to advocate on the behalf of the Navajo Nation to support the passage and enactment of amendments to 25 U.S.C. 13, "The Snyder Act" to authorize forward funding of the Bureau of Indian Education Higher Education Grant Program.