

THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: \_0364-19\_\_\_\_\_      SPONSOR: Otto Tso

**TITLE: An Action Relating to the Navajo Nation Council; Confirming the probationary appointment of Letitia Stover as Navajo Nation District Court Judge**

*Date posted: November 27, 2019 at 1:58pm*

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## LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0364-19

**DATE:** November 26, 2019

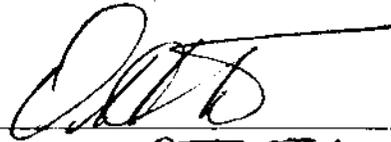
**TITLE OF RESOLUTION:** AN ACTION RELATING TO THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; CONFIRMING THE PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT OF LETITIA STOVER AS NAVAJO NATION DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

**PURPOSE:** This bill will confirm the appointment of District Court Judge Letitia Stover for a two year probationary period. The President of the Navajo Nation shall appoint the District Court Judges with confirmation by the Navajo Nation Council from among those applicants recommended by the Law and Order [Judiciary] Committee of the Navajo Nation Council. The Law and Order Committee delegated its responsibility and authority to the Judicial Conduct Commission to screen applicants and to recommend the probationary appointment of judges and justices. LOCS-19-18. The Navajo Nation Council shall confirm judicial appointments. 7 N.N.C. § 355 (A).

**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: None  
Website Posting Time/Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Posting End Date: 12-02-19  
Eligible for Action: 12-03-19

1 PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION  
2 24<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- First Year, 2019

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5  
6 (OTTO TSO)  
7 (Prime Sponsor)

8 TRACKING NO. 0364-19

9  
10 AN ACTION  
11 RELATING TO THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; CONFIRMING THE  
12 PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT OF LETITIA STOVER AS NAVAJO NATION  
13 DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

14  
15 BE IT ENACTED:

16  
17 **Section One. Authority**

- 18 A. The Navajo Nation established the Law and Order Committee as a Navajo Nation  
19 standing committee and as such gave the Law and Order Committee authority to  
20 recommend to the Navajo Nation President the permanent appointment of probationary  
21 judges. 2 N.N.C. §§ 164 (A)(9), 600 (A), 601 (B)(10).
- 22 B. The Law and Order Committee delegated its responsibility and authority to the Judicial  
23 Conduct Commission to screen applicants and to recommend the probationary  
24 appointment of judges and justices. LOCS-19-18.
- 25 C. The Judicial Conduct Commission made its recommendation to the Navajo Nation  
26 President for Letitia Stover to be appointed as a probationary judge of the Navajo Nation.  
27 JCC-03-19.
- 28 D. The President of the Navajo Nation shall appoint the Chief Justice, Associate Justices,  
29 and District Court Judges with confirmation by the Navajo Nation Council from among  
30 those applicants recommended by the Law and Order [Judiciary] Committee of the

1 Navajo Nation Council. The Navajo Nation Council shall confirm judicial appointments.  
2 7 N.N.C. § 355 (A).

- 3 E. References in the Navajo Nation Code and other official documents to the Government  
4 Services and Intergovernmental Relations Committee shall mean Naabik'iyáti  
5 Committee, unless the amendments enacted herein for the context of previous law  
6 indicates otherwise. *See* CO-45-12.

7  
8 **Section Two. Findings**

- 9 A. Letitia Stover is an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation and is an applicant for  
10 appointment as District Court judge. Ms. Stover's application and qualifications have  
11 been reviewed by Judicial Conduct Commission, and she has been interviewed by  
12 Judicial Conduct Commission. *See* JCC-03-19, attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.
- 13 B. The Judicial Conduct Commission has determined that Letitia Stover meets the  
14 qualifications for appointment as Navajo Nation Judge and has recommended her for  
15 probationary appointment to the Navajo Nation President. *Id.*
- 16 C. The Navajo Nation President has appointed Letitia Stover as Navajo Nation judge,  
17 subject to confirmation by the Navajo Nation Council. *See* Appointment Letter and  
18 Qualification Documents attached hereto as **Exhibits B** and **C**, respectively.

19  
20 **Section Three. Confirming Probationary Appointment**

21 The Navajo Nation confirms Ms. Letitia Stover as a probationary Navajo Nation  
22 Judge.

23  
24 **Section Four. Navajo Nation Privacy Act**

25 Confidential information within application documents shall remain protected except  
26 upon its authorized disclosure by the appointee. 2 N.N.C. § 81 *et seq.* (2009).