

THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: \_0014-21\_

SPONSOR: Eugenia Charles-Newton

**TITLE: An Action Relating to the Naabik'íyáti' Committee; Supporting New Mexico Congresswoman Deb Haaland to be Appointed as Secretary of the Interior, U.S. Department of Interior, Under the President Joe R. Biden Administration**

*Date posted:* January 27, 2021 at 10:31PM

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## LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0014-21

**DATE:** January 27, 2021

**TITLE OF RESOLUTION:** AN ACTION RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; SUPPORTING NEW MEXICO CONGRESSWOMAN DEB HAALAND TO BE APPOINTED AS SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR, UNDER THE PRESIDENT JOE R. BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

**PURPOSE:** To support New Mexico Congresswoman Deb Haaland to be appointed as the Secretary of the Interior under the President Joe R. Biden Administration.

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.

1 PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION  
2 24<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL—THIRD YEAR, 2021

3 INTRODUCED BY

4   
5 \_\_\_\_\_

6 Primary Sponsor

7 TRACKING NO. 0014-21

8  
9 AN ACTION

10 RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; SUPPORTING NEW  
11 MEXICO CONGRESSWOMAN DEB HAALAND TO BE APPOINTED AS  
12 SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR,  
13 UNDER THE PRESIDENT JOE R. BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

14  
15 WHEREAS:

- 16 A. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §  
17 102 (A).
- 18 B. The Navajo Nation Council established the Naabik'íyáti' Committee as a standing  
19 committee of the Navajo Nation Council and specifically empowered the Committee  
20 to:
- 21 i. To review and continually monitor the programs and activities of federal  
22 and state departments and to assist development of such programs  
23 designed to serve the Navajo People and the Navajo Nation through  
24 intergovernmental relationships between the Navajo Nation and such  
25 departments.
  - 26 ii. To coordinate with all committees, Chapters, branches and entities  
27 concerned with all Navajo appearances and testimony before  
28 Congressional committees, departments of the United States government,  
29 state legislatures and departments and county and local governments.
- 30

1           iii. To recommend to United States departments and agencies, the states and  
2           various regional agencies the appointment of individuals who, in the  
3           judgment of the Committee, will fulfill the requirements of their office and  
4           serve the interests of the Navajo Nation.

5           2 N.N.C. §§ 700 and 701 (A)(7)-(9).

6           C. The Navajo Nation has a government-to-government relationship with the United  
7           States of America, Treaty of 1868, Aug. 12, 1868, 15 Stat. 667.

8           D. Congresswoman Deb Haaland is an enrolled member of the Pueblo of Laguna in New  
9           Mexico.

10          E. In 2006, Congresswoman Haaland earned her Juris Doctor from the University of  
11          New Mexico School of Law.

12          F. Congresswoman Haaland's political career includes serving as the Vote Director for  
13          Native Americans in Barack Obama's 2012 presidential re-election campaign and in  
14          2015, Congresswoman Haaland was elected to a two-year term as Chair of the  
15          Democratic Party of New Mexico.

16          G. In 2018, Congresswoman Haaland was elected to the United States House of  
17          Representatives for the First District of New Mexico and became one of first two  
18          Native American women to serve in the House of Representatives.

19          H. Congresswoman Haaland has close to twenty years of public service including  
20          representing Native American governments, including but not limited to her Laguna  
21          Pueblo and San Felipe Pueblo.

22          I. Congresswoman Haaland is and has always been a well-informed and tireless advocate  
23          for United States Public Lands and Native American issues.

24          J. Congresswoman Haaland has the education, public service, and political experience  
25          necessary to lead the U.S. Department of Interior in a direction that enhances and  
26          protects, rather than diminishes, Native American governments and Native American  
27          lands and on December 17, 2020, United States President nominated Congresswoman  
28          Haaland to be appointed as first Native American Secretary of the Interior.

1 **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

- 2 A. The Navajo Nation supports New Mexico Congresswoman Deb Haaland to be  
3 appointed and confirmed as the Secretary of the Interior under the President Biden  
4 administration.
- 5 B. The Navajo Nation hereby authorizes the Navajo Nation President, the Navajo Nation  
6 Speaker, and/or their designees, to advocate and support the appointment and  
7 confirmation of Congresswoman Haaland as the Secretary of the Interior.

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