TITLE: An Action Relating To The Naabik’íyáti’ Committee; Respectfully Requesting The State Of Arizona Designate The Arizona Portion Of U.S. Route 191 As The "Chief Manuelito Highway"

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DATE: January 22, 2021

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION; AN ACTION RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE STATE OF ARIZONA DESIGNATE THE ARIZONA PORTION OF U.S. ROUTE 191 AS THE "CHIEF MANUELITO HIGHWAY"

PURPOSE: The purpose of the resolution is to request the State of Arizona to designate US 191 as the “Chief Manuelito Highway.”

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.
PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

24th NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' NATION COUNCIL—Third Year, 2021

INTRODUCED BY

Primary Sponsor

TRACKING NO. 0018-21

AN ACTION

RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE STATE OF ARIZONA DESIGNATE THE ARIZONA PORTION OF U.S. ROUTE 191 AS THE "CHIEF MANUELITO HIGHWAY"

WHEREAS:

A. Statements of policy, enactment of positive law, intergovernmental agreements, budget resolutions, and reallocations, must be reviewed and approved by resolution by the appropriate standing committee(s) and the Navajo Nation Council except as otherwise provided herein. 2 N.N.C. § 164 (A).

B. The Navajo Nation established the Naabik'íyáti' Committee as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee and as such empowered Naabik'íyáti' Committee to assist and coordinate all requests for information, appearances and testimony relating to proposed county, state and federal legislation impacting the Navajo Nation. See 2 N.N.C. §§ 164 (A)(9), 701 (A)(4), 701(A)(6).


D. U.S. Route 191 (US 191) is a spur of U.S. Route 91 that has two branches. The southern branch runs for 1,465 miles (2,358 km) from Douglas, Arizona on the Mexican border to the southern part of Yellowstone National Park. The northern branch runs for 440 miles (710 km) from the northern part of Yellowstone National
Park to Loring, Montana, at the Canada–US border. Unnumbered roads within
Yellowstone National Park connect the two branches. The highway passes through

E. Chief Manuelito, Hastiin Chi’il Haajin, lived from 1818 until 1893. Chief Manuelito
was a chief both before and after the Long Walk to Fort Sumner and was one of the
chiefs who negotiated for the Navajo People to return to their homeland. Chief
Manuelito was regarded as a brilliant strategist. Robert W. Young, A Political

F. On July 4, 1898 on the travel home Chief Manuelito stated, “When we saw the top of
the mountain (Mt. Taylor) from Albuquerque we wondered if it was our mountain
and felt like falling to the ground, we loved it so . . .” Bill P. Acrey, Navajo History
The Land and the People, 77 (1988).

G. For nearly a decade after the return from Fort Sumner, from 1870 until 1884, Chief
Manuelito served as the head chief of the Navajo Tribe and was the foremost leader
in the Eastern area of the Navajo Nation. Robert W. Young, A Political History of
the Navajo Tribe, 41 (1978).

H. Chief Manuelito’s leadership and advocacy concerning the importance of education
helped pave the way for many Navajo’s to continue on with their post-secondary
education. He said, “My grandchild, school is the ladder. Tell our people this.” Bill
P. Acrey, Navajo History The Land and the People, 124 (1988).

I. In 1980 the Navajo Nation established the Chief Manuelito Scholarship to provide
scholarships to high achieving Navajo high school graduates with their post-

J. In the best interest of the Navajo Nation to request the State of Arizona designate the
Arizona portion of U.S. Route 191 as the “Chief Manuelito Highway.”

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

The Navajo Nation hereby respectfully requests the State of Arizona designate the
Arizona portion of U.S. Route 191 as the “Chief Manuelito Highway.”