

THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: \_0029-21\_\_

SPONSOR: Raymond Smith, Jr.

TITLE: An Action Relating To Naabik'iyáti' Committee; Urging The United States Department Of Defense To Investigate The Deaths Of United States (U.S.) Army Specialist, Miguel Douglas Yazzie, And Army Private Carlton Chee; Stationed At Fort (FT.) Hood Texas, United States Of America

*Date posted:* March 01, 2021 at 8:12PM

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## LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0029-21

**DATE:** March 1, 2021

**TITLE OF RESOLUTION:** AN ACTION RELATING TO NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO INVESTIGATE THE DEATHS OF UNITED STATES (U.S.) ARMY SPECIALIST, MIGUEL DOUGLAS YAZZIE, AND ARMY PRIVATE CARLTON CHEE; STATIONED AT FORT (FT.) HOOD TEXAS, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**PURPOSE:** To urge the United States Department of Defense to investigate the deaths of U.S. Army Specialist, Miguel Douglas Yazzie and Army Private Carlton Chee stationed at Fort Hood Texas.

**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: J. Johnson  
Website Posting Time/Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Posting End Date: 03-06-21  
Eligible for Action: 03-07-21

1 PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION  
2 24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – Third Year 2021

3 INTRODUCED BY

4   
5 \_\_\_\_\_  
6 (Prime Sponsor)

7  
8 TRACKING NO. 0029-21

9  
10 AN ACTION

11 RELATING TO NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; URGING THE UNITED  
12 STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO INVESTIGATE THE DEATHS OF  
13 UNITED STATES (U.S.) ARMY SPECIALIST, MIGUEL DOUGLAS YAZZIE,  
14 AND ARMY PRIVATE CARLTON CHEE; STATIONED AT FORT (FT.) HOOD  
15 TEXAS, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

16  
17 WHEREAS,

- 18 A. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §  
19 102 (A).  
20 B. The Naabik'iyáti' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council is empowered to review  
21 all proposed legislation which requires final action by the Navajo Nation Council. 2  
22 N.N.C. 164 (A)(9).  
23 C. The Navajo Nation has a government-to-government relationship with the United  
24 States of America, Treaty of 1868, Aug. 12, 1868, 15 Stat. 667.  
25 D. U.S. Army Specialist, Miguel Douglas Yazzie (Specialist Yazzie), enlisted in 2016,  
26 and was an Air Defense Early Warning Systems Operator.  
27 E. Specialist Yazzie was stationed in South Korea prior to being stationed at Ft. Hood  
28 Texas.  
29 F. On July 3, 2020, Specialist Yazzie was discovered deceased on the Ft. Hood Army  
30 Base.

1  
2 G. In an unrelated incident, U.S. Army Private Carlton Chee (Private Chee), a Navajo  
3 from Pinehill, New Mexico died at Ft. Hood two months earlier.

4 H. Specialist Yazzie's and Private Chee's deaths are two (2) of twenty-eight (28) deaths  
5 that occurred at Ft. Hood in 2020.

6 I. On November 24, 2020, Specialist Yazzie's father, Michael Yazzie (Mr. Yazzie),  
7 stated during a telephone communication, there is no closure of the matter and the  
8 Defense Department has not provided an official cause of death.

9 J. Mr. Yazzie seeks continuous support from the Navajo Nation and urges the Defense  
10 Department to thoroughly investigate his son's, Specialist Yazzie's, death. *See* three  
11 (3) page letter authored by Michael Yazzie incorporated herein as **Exhibit A**.

12 K. On December 16, 2020, a family spokesman of Private Chee's family was contacted  
13 and did not object to the Defense Department to conduct thorough investigations into  
14 the untimely deaths of Specialist Yazzie and Private Chee.

15  
16 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

17 A. The Navajo Nation supports and urges the United States Defense Department to  
18 thoroughly investigate Specialist Miguel Douglas Yazzie's and Private Carlton  
19 Chee's deaths.

20 B. The Navajo Nation hereby authorizes the Navajo Nation President, the Navajo  
21 Nation Speaker, to advocate and support the investigation of Specialist Miguel  
22 Douglas Yazzie's and Private Carlton Chee's deaths.