

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0031-21__

SPONSOR: Otto Tso

TITLE: An Action Relating to Health, Education and Human Services, Naabik'iyáti' and Navajo Nation Council; Approving the Reinstatement of Louise Rae Pavinyama as a Member of the Navajo Nation

Date posted: March 02, 2021 at 3:20PM

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0031-21

DATE: March 1, 2021

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES, NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' AND NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; APPROVING THE REINSTATEMENT OF LOUISE RAE PAVINYAMA AS A MEMBER OF THE NAVAJO NATION

PURPOSE: To approve the reinstatement of Louise Rae Pavinyama as a member of the Navajo Nation.

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: Voluntary
Website Posting Time/Date: _____
Posting End Date: 03-07-21
Eligible for Action: 03-08-21

Health Education & Human Services Committee
Thence
Naabik'iyáti' Committee
Thence
Navajo Nation Council

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

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 
5 _____
6 (Prime Sponsor)
7 OTTO TSO

8 TRACKING NO. 0031-21

9
10 AN ACTION

11 RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES,
12 NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' AND NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; APPROVING THE
13 REINSTATEMENT OF LOUISE RAE PAVINYAMA AS A MEMBER OF THE
14 NAVAJO NATION

15
16 BE IT ENACTED:

17
18 **SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY**

- 19 A. Under the laws of the Navajo Nation, any enrolled member of the Navajo Nation may
20 renounce [her] membership by written petition to the President of the Navajo Nation
21 requesting that his name be stricken from the Navajo Nation roll. *See* 1 N.N.C. § 705
22 (Renunciation of membership).
- 23 B. The Navajo Nation in addition states, “[n]o person, otherwise eligible for membership
24 in the Navajo Nation, may enroll as a member of the Navajo Nation, who, at the same
25 time, is on the roll of any other tribe of Indians.” *See* 1 N.N.C. § 703 (Member of
26 another tribe).
- 27 C. Renounced members may be reinstated by the Navajo Nation only by the vote of
28 majority of the Navajo Nation Council. *See* 1 N.N.C. § 705 (Renunciation of
29 membership).
- 30

1 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

- 2 A. The Navajo Nation Office of Vital Records confirmed Louise Rae Pavinyama (Ms.
3 Pavinyama) was enrolled with the Navajo Nation on July 14, 1971, with blood quantum
4 one-half Navajo and one-half Hopi. *See* Memorandum dated February 26, 2021
5 authored by Ronald D. Duncan, Program Manager I, Navajo Nation of Vital Records
6 as **Exhibit A**.
- 7 B. The Hopi Tribe furnished the Navajo Nation a letter verifying Louise Rae Pavinyama
8 was eligible to enroll in the Hopi Tribe. *See* Letter dated October 28, 2003 authored
9 by Mary L. Polacca, Director of the Hopi Tribal Enrollment Office as **Exhibit B**.
- 10 C. The Navajo Nation Office of Vital Records confirmed Louise Rae Pavinyama
11 requested relinquishment of her Navajo membership on November 3, 2003. *See* Letter
12 Requesting Relinquishment as **Exhibit C**.
- 13 D. The Navajo Nation Office of Vital Records confirmed Louise Rae Pavinyama
14 completed a Section 164 Review Process. *See* Section 164 Review Process # 17275 as
15 **Exhibit D**.
- 16 E. The Navajo Nation Office of Vital Records confirmed Louise Rae Pavinyama
17 relinquished her Navajo membership on February 13, 2004 for the purpose of enrolling
18 in the Hopi tribe. *See* Membership Relinquishment form endorsed by Navajo Nation
19 President Joe Shirley as **Exhibit E**.
- 20 F. The Navajo Nation Office of Vital Records has further confirmed Louise Rae
21 Pavinyama is one-half (1/2) Navajo blood and eligible to enroll as a member of the
22 Navajo Nation. 1 N.N.C. § 701 (B).
- 23 G. The Hopi Tribe has confirmed Louise Rae Pavinyama formally relinquished her Hopi
24 Tribal Membership on March, 5, 2020, for the purpose of applying for a home-site
25 lease and land. *See* Notarized Hopi Tribe Relinquishment Statement and Notice of
26 Relinquishment as **Exhibit F**.
- 27 H. The Hopi Tribe has confirmed Louise Rae Pavinyama was provided a formal Notice of
28 Relinquishment herein as **Exhibit G**.
- 29
30

1 I. Louise Rae Pavinyama has formally requested reinstatement as a Navajo Nation tribal
2 member. *See* letter authored by Louise Rae Pavinyama dated December 9, 2020 as
3 **Exhibit H.**

4
5 **SECTION THREE. REENROLLMENT**

6 Louise Rae Pavinyama is and shall be reinstated, or otherwise reenrolled, as a member of
7 the Navajo Nation. By this action of the Navajo Nation Council and pursuant to the laws
8 of the Navajo Nation, she shall be entitled to all rights, benefits and privileges associated
9 with membership with the Navajo Nation.