TITLE: An Action Relating to Resources and Development Committee, Naabik’íyáti Committee, and Navajo Nation Council: Amending CJN-36-21, Section Six, to Extend the Deadline for Chapters to Return to the Twenty-Five Person Chapter Meeting Quorum Requirement

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DATE: September 15, 2021

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, NAABIK’ÍYÁTÍ COMMITTEE, AND NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; AMENDING CJN-36-21, SECTION SIX, TO EXTEND THE DEADLINE FOR CHAPTERS TO RETURN TO THE TWENTY-FIVE PERSON CHAPTER MEETING QUORUM REQUIREMENT

PURPOSE: This resolution, if approved, will amend CJN-36-21 to provide an additional 180 days for Chapter’s to return to their 25 person meeting quorum requirements.

This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committee. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each committee member to review the proposed resolution in detail.
PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION
24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – Third Year, 2021

INTRODUCED BY

(Sponsor)

TRACKING NO. 0200-2X

AN ACTION

RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE,
NAABIK'ÍYÁTÍ COMMITTEE, AND NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL;
AMENDING CJN-36-21, SECTION SIX, TO EXTEND THE DEADLINE FOR
CHAPTERS TO RETURN TO THE TWENTY-FIVE PERSON CHAPTER
MEETING QUORUM REQUIREMENT

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY
A. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 102 (A).
B. The Naabik’íyáti Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with the authority and responsibility to hear and act on all resolutions that require final action by the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. §§ 164 (A)(9) and 700 (A).
C. The Resources and Development Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with oversight authority over chapter activities. 2 N.N.C. §§ 500 (A) and (C).

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS
A. The World Health Organization ("WHO") declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern related to the outbreak of coronavirus ("COVID-19"), a highly contagious and


C. The coronavirus pandemic of 2019 has caused large scale infections and loss of life throughout the world, the United States and the Navajo Nation. As of September 14, 2021, the Navajo Nation Health Command Operations Center has confirmed 33,290 COVID-19 cases and 1,421 COVID-related deaths on the Navajo Nation.

D. Since the start of the pandemic, the Navajo Nation Council and its Standing Committees responded to the emergency situation passing a record number of legislative acts to address the pandemic situation and offer relief to constituents and communities.

E. Numerous factors show that the Navajo Nation was starting to recover from the devastating effect of the Coronavirus, including, but not limited to, more adults and children receiving the COVID-19 vaccine, reduced hospitalization of COVID-19 positive cases, and more negative test results for COVID-19.

F. In response to the recovery, Navajo Nation Council enacted Resolution No. CJN-36-21 titled “AN ACTION RELATING TO AN EMERGENCY FOR THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; REPEALING RESOLUTIONS RELATED TO OR RESPONDING TO EMERGENCY OR EXTRAORDINARY ENACTMENTS’ PERTAINING TO COVID-19 MITIGATION AND COVID-19 PANDEMIC OPERATIONAL AND PREPAREDNESS PROCEDURES; AUTHORIZING THE OPENING OF NAVAJO-OWNED BUSINESSES
TO NAVAJO CITIZENS AND NON-NAVAJO TOURISTS AND VISITORS;

AUTHORIZING IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AT SCHOOLS OPERATING WITHIN THE

NAVAJO NATION”, attached as Exhibit A, which included that “[w]ithin ninety (90) days of

enactment of this legislation [CJN-36-21], Chapter meeting quorum requirements shall return
to a minimum of twenty-five persons unless otherwise authorized under RDCD-127-12.” CJN-

36-21, Section Six (B).

G. COVID-19 variants have, however, emerged since the enactment of CJN-36-21 that
threaten to continue and even increase the pandemic's assault on the Navajo People and
the Navajo Nation may experience additional variant-based COVID-19 exposures and
cases in the coming months.

H. The Navajo Nation Council determines that it is in the best interest for the overall safety
of the Navajo People to extend the deadline established by Navajo Nation Council
Resolution No. CJN-36-21 for Chapters to return to the Chapter meeting twenty-five
member quorum requirement.

SECTION THREE. AMENDING CJN-36-21, SECTION SIX

The Navajo Nation hereby amends CJN-36-21, Section Six, as follows:

SECTION SIX. ALLOWING CHAPTER TELECOMMUNICATIONS

A. Navajo Nation Chapters shall comply with applicable Public Health Emergency
Orders.

B. Within ninety (90) one hundred eighty (180) days of enactment of this
legislation, unless otherwise extended through resolution of the Naabik’iyáti
Committee, shall return to a minimum of twenty-five persons unless otherwise
authorized under RDCD-127-12.

C. Chapter meetings shall comply the Navajo Nation Local Governance Act.

D. The chapters may continue to use telephonic or other electronic means as
supplement to meet their normal quorum requirement.

E. The Navajo Nation Council hereby support the continued use of the Chapter
Return to Operations Plan, attached as Exhibit A, to guide Chapters in providing
services to their communities in a safe manner.

Page 3 of 4

OLC No. 21-402-1
SECTION FOUR. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Resolution is effective upon its approval pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §§ 1005 (C) (10) – (12).

SECTION FIVE. SAVING CLAUSE

Should any provision of this legislation be determined invalid by the Navajo Nation Supreme Court, or a District Court of the Navajo Nation without appeal to the Navajo Nation Supreme Court, those portions of the legislation which are not determined invalid shall remain the law of the Navajo Nation.