TITLE: An Action Relating to the Naa’bik’iyati’ Committee: Requesting the United States Postal Services to provide an oral and written report to the Navajo Nation Council regarding improvements to the postal services offered to the 110 Navajo Nation Chapters

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DATE: October 28, 2021

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO PROVIDE AN ORAL AND WRITTEN REPORT TO THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL REGARDING IMPROVEMENTS TO THE POSTAL SERVICES OFFERED TO THE 110 NAVAJO NATION CHAPTERS

PURPOSE: This resolution, if approved, will request the United States Postal Service (USPS) to present a written and oral report concerning the state of postal services at the 110 chapters and how such postal services will be upgraded under the USPS’ Delivering for America Ten (10) Year Plan.

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 STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – Third Year, 2021

INTRODUCED BY

(Prime Sponsor)

TRACKING NO. 0221-21

AN ACTION
RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTÌ' COMMITTEE; REQUESTING THE
UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO PROVIDE AN ORAL AND WRITTEN
REPORT TO THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL REGARDING
IMPROVEMENTS TO THE POSTAL SERVICES OFFERED TO THE 110
NAVAJO NATION CHAPTERS

WHEREAS:

1. The Navajo Nation established the Naabik’íyáti’ Committee as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee and empowered the Committee, as a matter of policy, to review and continually monitor the programs and activities of federal and state departments and to assist development of such programs designed to serve the Navajo People and the Navajo Nation through intergovernmental relationships between the Navajo Nation and such departments; 2 N.N.C. §§ 164 (A)(9), 700(A), and 701 (A)(7).


3. Rural Navajo communities have limited access to telecommunication services and community members rely heavily on receiving mail and packages through the U.S. Postal Service, but over the last century, if not longer, Navajo communities have
endured insufficient and substandard postal services, particularly in those areas of the
reservation where postal delivery services are limited to regional convenience stores
via a “highway contract” which requires non-standard addressing.

4. In its recently released Delivering for America Ten (10) Year Plan (“Delivery for
America”), Exhibit A, the United States Postal Services (“USPS”) states that its
“basic mission is to provide prompt, reliable, and efficient mail and package shipping
services to all Americans – regardless of where they live – and at affordable rates”.
Delivery for America, Executive Summary, page 4,
https://about.usps.com/what/strategic-plans/delivering-for-america/.

5. The USPS Postmaster General and the Chairperson of the USPS Board of Governors
jointly state that the Delivering for America plan will “dramatically improve service
through strategies aligned to the changing needs of our customers [and] will optimize
our mail and package processing capabilities, improve the technology and oversight
of our surface logistics network, realign service standards to enable the best use of
our transportation and processing networks, strengthen our delivery network, promote
measurable operating excellence, modernize vehicles and infrastructure, revitalize our
post offices, enable long-term postal careers for employees, and innovate solutions
and services for customers.” Exhibit A, Letter from the Postmaster General, page 3.

6. As Navajo communities grow, full postal services, including but not limited to brick
and mortar post offices, are desperately needed to provide adequate postal delivery
services to the Navajo populace; postal services that provide all that is promised in
Delivering for America.

7. The Many Farms Chapter community, for example, with the support of U.S. Senator
Mark Kelly, Exhibit B, is specifically requesting an actual Post Office, Exhibit C
(Many Farms Chapter Resolution MF-09-11-20); the Lukachukai Chapter
Community is also requesting an actual Post Office.

8. The Navajo populace deserves to know that the USPS has recognized the substandard
postal services currently provided at the 110 chapters located throughout the Navajo
Nation and how the Delivering for America plan will upgrade and improve those
services at each of the chapters.
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Navajo Nation hereby requests the United States Postal Service to provide an oral and written report to the Navajo Nation Council regarding how the Delivering for America Ten (10) Year Plan will upgrade and improve the delivery of postal services at each of the 110 chapters located throughout the Navajo Nation.