

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0057-22_

SPONSOR: Jamie Henio

TITLE: An Act Relating to the Budget and Finance Committee; Amending the Signatory Authority for the Office of the Controller to Conduct Business with the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Trust Funds Administration

Date posted: March 29, 2022 at 3:08PM

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SUMMARY OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

TrackingNo. 0057-22

Date: March 25, 2022

**Re: AN ACT RELATING TO THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE;
AMENDING THE SIGNATORY AUTHORITY FOR THE OFFICE OF THE
CONTROLLER TO CONDUCT BUSINESS WITH THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR, BUREAU OF TRUST FUNDS
ADMINISTRATION**

Purpose of this Legislation:

to approve a new signature designation form for the Office of the Controller so that certain staff with OOC are authorized to conduct business with the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Trust Funds Administration.

OLC No. 22-103-1

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PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
24TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - Fourth Year, 2022

Introduced by:

Primary Sponsor

Tracking No. 0057-22

AN ACT
RELATING TO THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE; AMENDING
THE SIGNATORY AUTHORITY FOR THE OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER
TO CONDUCT BUSINESS WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT
OF INTERIOR, BUREAU OF TRUST FUNDS ADMINISTRATION

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Budget and Finance Committee is established as a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council. 12 N.N.C. §300(A).
- B. The Budget and Finance Committee is empowered to exercise oversight authority over the Navajo Nation’s financial matters, including but not limited to, budgeting, finance, investment, contracting, and audits, in order to coordinate, oversee, and regulate the fiscal, financial, investment, contracting, and audit polices of the Navajo Nation. 12 N.N.C. §300(C)(1).

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- A. The Navajo Nation recognizes that the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Trust Funds Administration (“BTFA”), formerly the Office of Special Trustee for American Indians, requires the designation and authorization of tribal officials in order for the respective

1 tribes to conduct financial business with the BTFA. The Navajo Nation's previous
2 designation of certain Navajo Nation officials was approved in Budget and Finance
3 Committee Resolution No. BFMY-08-16, incorporated herein by this reference.

4 B. The Navajo Nation Office of the Controller has submitted a revised designation and
5 authorization form, titled: "Tribal Officials Authorized to Initiate Disbursements and
6 Receive Information on Tribal Accounts." **EXHIBIT A.**

7 C. The prior designation of certain Navajo Nation officials authorized to conduct business, as
8 set forth in BFMY-08-16, is hereby rescinded and replaced with the updated authorization
9 form attached as **EXHIBIT A.** The updated form also replaces the former Office of Special
10 Trustee for American Indians with the successor agency BTFA.

11 D. The Department of Justice has reviewed the revised designation form and determined it to
12 be legally sufficient. **EXHIBIT B.**

13 E. The Budget and Finance Committee finds it in the best interest of the Navajo Nation to
14 approve the amended authorization form designating certain staff within the Office of the
15 Controller to conduct business with the BTFA.

16 17 **SECTION THREE. APPROVAL**

18 The Navajo Nation hereby approves the revised designation and signature authorization form
19 submitted by the Office of the Controller, attached as **EXHIBIT A,** to permit the named
20 individuals whose signatures appear on the new form to conduct business with the
21 U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Trust Funds Administration. Such business includes,
22 but shall not be limited to, requests for tribal disbursements and the drawdown of funds.

23 24 **SECTION FOUR. EFFECTIVE DATE**

25 This Act shall become effective according to 2 N.N.C. §300(C)(1) and 2 N.N.C. §189(A).

26 27 **SECTION FIVE. SAVING CLAUSE**

28 If any portion of this Act is invalidated by the Supreme Court of the Navajo Nation, or by any
29 Navajo Nation District Court without appeal to the Navajo Nation Supreme Court, the remainder
30 of this legislation shall be the law of the Navajo Nation.