

THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: \_0083-22\_

SPONSOR: Wilson C. Stewart, Jr.

**TITLE: An Action Relating to Naabik'íyáti' Committee; Requesting the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Navajo Region, Division of Transportation to Change the Name of Navajo Route N110 in Fort Defiance Chapter (Arizona) from Kit Carson Road to Pete Price Road**

*Date posted:* April 14, 2022 at 6:14 PM

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## LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0083-22

**DATE:** April 8, 2022

**TITLE OF RESOLUTION:** PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION; AN ACTION RELATING TO NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; REQUESTING THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, NAVAJO REGION, DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION TO CHANGE THE NAME OF NAVAJO ROUTE N110 IN FORT DEFIANCE CHAPTER (ARIZONA) FROM KIT CARSON ROAD TO PETE PRICE ROAD

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the resolution is to request the Bureau of Indian Affairs and its Roads Department to immediately remove the name of Christopher "Kit" Carson from Navajo Route N110 and name Navajo Route N110 for the respected Navajo medicineman Pete Price aka Hastiin Litso and Hastiin Tséłbái.

**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: Johnson  
Website Posting Time/Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Posting End Date: 04-19-22  
Eligible for Action: 04-20-22

1 PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION  
2 24<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL— Fourth Year, 2022

3 INTRODUCED BY

4   
5 \_\_\_\_\_  
6 Primary Sponsor

7 TRACKING NO. 0083-22

8  
9 AN ACTION

10 RELATING TO NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; REQUESTING THE BUREAU  
11 OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, NAVAJO REGION, DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION  
12 TO CHANGE THE NAME OF NAVAJO ROUTE N110 IN FORT DEFIANCE  
13 CHAPTER (ARIZONA) FROM KIT CARSON ROAD TO PETE PRICE ROAD

14  
15 WHEREAS:

- 16 A. The Navajo Nation established the Naabik'iyáti' Committee as a Navajo Nation  
17 Council standing committee and as such empowered the Naabik'iyáti' Committee to  
18 review and continually monitor the programs and activities of federal and state  
19 departments and to assist development of such programs designed to serve the Navajo  
20 People and the Navajo Nation through intergovernmental relations between the Navajo  
21 Nation and such departments. 2 N.N.C. §§ 700 (A) and 701(A)(7).
- 22 B. The Bureau of Indian Affairs Navajo Route N110 located on the Navajo Nation in Fort  
23 Defiance Chapter (Arizona) is named for Christopher "Kit" Carson. Kit Carson, a  
24 colonel of the First New Mexico Volunteers, led a campaign and destructive war  
25 against the Navajo leading to the imprisonment of Diné from 1863 to 1868 in a  
26 concentration camp known to the Navajo as "Hweeldi" in Bosque Redondo (Fort  
27 Sumner, New Mexico).
- 28 C. Kit Carson and his troops terrorized the Navajo people by burning crops, destroying  
29 homes, and slaughtering and killing livestock. More than two-hundred Navajos died  
30 from adverse weather, illness, exhaustion, and the brutality of Carson and his troops on

1 the “Long Walk,” the forced march of over 300 miles of Navajos from their ancestral  
2 lands to Hweedli.

3 D. The Navajo Nation objects to the use of Kit Carson’s name to memorialize Navajo  
4 Route N110. Navajo Route N110 should not be named for an individual who caused  
5 such harm and suffering to the Navajo people

6 E. Navajo Route N110 should commemorate a respected, knowledgeable person who  
7 dedicated his life to learning Navajo ceremonies, preserving Navajo culture and  
8 practicing these ceremonies for the health and well-being of the Diné people. The  
9 Navajo Nation requests that Navajo Route N110 be named for Pete Price, also known  
10 as Hastiin Tséłbái and also known as Hastiin Łitso.

11 F. Pete Price (Hastiin Tséłbái, Hastiin Łitso) was born in Fort Defiance and was a survivor  
12 of the Long Walk period. His birth is recorded as 1868 in the records of Saint Michael’s  
13 Mission. Stephen C. Jett, Pete Price Navajo Medicineman (1868-1951): A Brief  
14 Biography.

15 G. He was very well known across Navajo land for his ability to perform many complex  
16 Diné ceremonies such as the Mountain Way Chant, Eagle Way, Beauty Way and  
17 Windway ceremonies.

18 H. In 1918 Pete Price (Hastiin Tséłbái, Hastiin Łitso) represented the Navajo Nation by  
19 greeting King Albert and Queen Elizabeth of Belgium when they stopped in Gallup,  
20 New Mexico. He gifted them a finely woven Navajo blanket. King Albert, in turn,  
21 pinned silver medals off this coat onto Hastiin Tséłbái’s shirt. The Navajo Times,  
22 October 15, 2021, Stephen C. Jett, Pete Price Navajo Medicineman (1868-1951): A  
23 Brief Biography.

24 I. Pete Price (Hastiin Tséłbái, Hastiin Łitso) led the dedication of the original Fort  
25 Defiance Hospital in 1938 by performing a House Blessing Ceremony. After the  
26 singing of the House Blessing Songs, each room of the new facility was blessed with  
27 white cornmeal. Stephen C. Jett, Pete Price Navajo Medicineman (1868-1951): A  
28 Brief Biography.

29 J. He was a great spiritual leader Hodiyyinii Nat’aanii who must not be forgotten.  
30

1 K. Resolution No. FDC-2020-03-08-05 of the Fort Defiance Chapter Navajo Nation,  
2 requesting “to change the road name on N110 from Kit Carson Road to Pete Price aka  
3 Hastiin Litso” is attached as **Exhibit A**.

4 L. The Navajo Nation believes the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Navajo Region, Division of  
5 Transportation would agree that it is demeaning and uncaring to name a road on which  
6 Navajo Nation citizens travel every day for Kit Carson, an individual that history shows  
7 treated Navajo people with brutality and cruelty. No road on the Navajo Nation should  
8 carry his name. Instead the road should be named for Pete Price (Hastiin Tséłbái,  
9 Hastiin Łitso), a respected Navajo medicineman, who demonstrated his love for the  
10 Navajo people by practicing and preserving Navajo traditional ceremonies.

11  
12 **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

13 A. The Navajo Nation hereby respectfully requests the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Navajo  
14 Region, Division of Transportation remove the name of Kit Carson from Navajo Route  
15 N110.

16 B. The Navajo Nation hereby further respectfully requests that the Bureau of Indian  
17 Affairs, Navajo Region, Division of Transportation name Navajo Route N110 for Pete  
18 Price also known as Hastiin Tséłbái and Hastiin Łitso.