

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0117-22_

SPONSOR: Mark A. Freeland

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Resources and Development Committee and Naabik'iyáti' Committee; Supporting U.S. Senate Bill 2265, The "Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) of 2021"; Urging the U.S. Senate to Amend the Bill to Expand Income Eligibility Requirements to Increase Native American Home Ownership

Date posted: July 18, 2022 at 5:21PM

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Office of Legislative Services
P.O. Box 3390
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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0117-22

DATE: July 14, 2022

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: RELATING TO THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AND THE NAABIK'IYATI' COMMITTEE; SUPPORTING U.S. SENATE BILL 2265, THE "NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION ACT (NAHASDA) OF 2021"; URGING THE U.S. SENATE TO AMEND THE BILL TO EXPAND INCOME ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS TO INCREASE NATIVE AMERICAN HOME OWNERSHIP

PURPOSE: This resolution, if approved, will support expansion of NAHASDA, S.B. 2265, to include low-income and over-income tribal applicants.


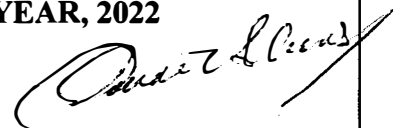
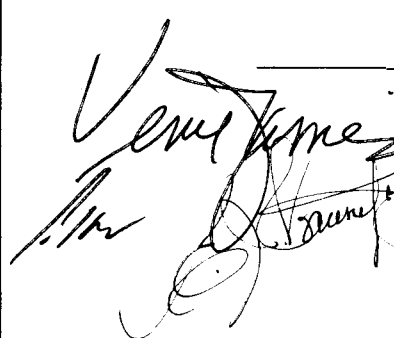

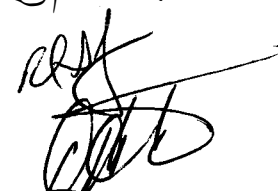

This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committee. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each committee member to review the proposed resolution in detail.

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: Johnson
Website Posting Time/Date: _____
Posting End Date: 07-23-22
Eligible for Action: 07-24-22

Resources & Development Committee
Thence
Naabik'iyati' Committee

1 PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
2 24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – FOURTH YEAR, 2022

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 
5 _____
6 (Prime Sponsor) 
7  
8 TRACKING NO. 0117-22 
9 

10 AN ACTION

11 RELATING TO THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AND THE
12 NAABIK'İYATI' COMMITTEE; SUPPORTING U.S. SENATE BILL 2265, THE
13 "NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION
14 ACT (NAHASDA) OF 2021"; URGING THE U.S. SENATE TO AMEND THE BILL
15 TO EXPAND INCOME ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS TO INCREASE NATIVE
16 AMERICAN HOME OWNERSHIP

17
18 BE IT ENACTED:

19
20 WHEREAS,

- 21 A. Statements of policy, enactment of positive law, intergovernmental agreements, budget
22 resolutions, and reallocations, must be reviewed and approved by resolution by the
23 appropriate standing committee(s) and the Navajo Nation Council except as otherwise
24 provided herein. 2 N.N.C. § 164 (A)
- 25 B. The Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council exercise
26 oversight authority over housing on the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §500(C).
- 27 C. The Navajo Nation established the Naabik'iyati' Committee as a Navajo Nation Council
28 standing committee and as such empowered the Naabik'iyati' Committee to coordinate
29 all federal programs and to assist and coordinate all requests for information, appearances
30

1 and testimony relating to federal legislation impacting the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §§
2 164 (A)(9), 700 (A), 701 (A)(4), 701(A)(6). See also Resolution No. CO-45-12.

3 D. The Navajo Nation has a government-to-government relationship with the United States
4 of America. Treaty of 1868, Aug. 12, 1868, 15 Stat. 667.

5 E. The Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act (NAHASDA) of
6 1996 reorganized the system of housing assistance provided to Native Americans through
7 the Department of Housing and Urban Development by establishing two
8 programs: Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) which is a formula-based grant program
9 and Title VI Loan Guarantee which provides financing guarantees to Indian tribes for
10 private market loans to develop affordable housing. Regulations for these programs are
11 published at 24 C.F.R. §1000 (1998).

12 F. NAHASDA programs are the main source of federal assistance to ensure that American
13 Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians have access to safe, accessible, and
14 affordable housing.

15 G. On June 24, 2021, the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act
16 of 2021 was introduced as Senate Bill 2265, which would reauthorize the Native
17 American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 through 2032.

18 **EXHIBIT A (S.B. 2265 in part).**

19 H. Senate Bill 2265 includes new provisions aimed at addressing the housing crisis in tribal
20 areas. Native Americans living in tribal areas have some of the worst housing needs in
21 the U.S., with exceptionally high poverty rates, low incomes, overcrowded living
22 conditions, lack of adequate plumbing and heating in their homes, and many other unique
23 barriers to housing development and home ownership.

24 I. The Navajo Nation has a history of lobbying for the expansion of income requirements
25 on federally funded housing programs to address the housing crisis of tribal members
26 seeking homeownership. See **EXHIBIT B**.

27 J. The Navajo Nation urges the adoption of amendments to the Native American Housing
28 Assistance and Self-Determination of 2021, to expand income restrictions to include non-
29 low income and over income families, and to amend NAHASDA accordingly.

1 K. Imposition of income restrictions on NAHASDA programs, as currently drafted in Senate
2 Bill 2265, needs to address non-low income and over income tribal members hoping to
3 achieve homeownership. The adoption of the Navajo Nation’s proposed amendments
4 would assist more tribal members in four critical areas: (1) rental housing; (2) contracts
5 for buying existing and newly-constructed homes; (3) lease-purchase agreements for
6 existing housing; and (4) new home construction. **EXHIBIT C.**

7
8 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,**

9 The Naabik’iyáti’ Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby authorizes the
10 President of the Navajo Nation, the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council and their
11 designees to communicate the Navajo Nation’s support of Senate Bill 2265, the Native
12 American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 2021, urging the adoption
13 of amended language to increase income eligibility levels to include non-low income and
14 over income families.