

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0148-22_

SPONSOR: Carl R. Slater

TITLE: An Act to the Health, Education, and Human Services Committee; Approving Four Budget Revision Requests by the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration ("NNVA") to Distribute All Veterans Trust Fund Carryover Amounts into the NNVA's Financial Assistance Program

Date posted: August 01, 2022 at 4:05PM

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SUMMARY OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

TrackingNo. 0148-22

Date: June 24, 2022

Re: AN ACT RELATING TO THE HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE; APPROVING FOUR BUDGET REVISION REQUESTS BY THE NAVAJO NATION VETERANS ADMINISTRATION (“NNVA”) TO DISTRIBUTE ALL VETERANS TRUST FUND CARRYOVER AMOUNTS INTO THE NNVA’S FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Purpose of this Legislation:

to approve four Budget Revision Requests submitted by the NNVA to reallocate Veterans Trust Fund carryovers into the NNVA’s Financial Assistance Program for eligible Navajo veterans.

OLC No. 22-205-1

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: Johnson
Website Posting Time/Date: _____
Posting End Date: 08-06-22
Eligible for Action: 08-07-22

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. 0148-22

9
10 AN ACT
11 RELATING TO THE HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND HUMAN SERVICES
12 COMMITTEE; APPROVING FOUR BUDGET REVISION REQUESTS
13 BY THE NAVAJO NATION VETERANS ADMINISTRATION (“NNVA”)
14 TO DISTRIBUTE ALL VETERANS TRUST FUND CARRYOVER
15 AMOUNTS INTO THE NNVA’S FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
16

17 BE IT ENACTED:

18
19 SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

20 A. Pursuant to Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. CJA-3-16, the Navajo Nation Veterans
21 Administration and the Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council were established within
22 the Executive Branch of the Navajo Nation, with the purpose of providing quality services
23 to Navajo Veterans. 2 N.N.C. §§1031 *et. seq.*

24 B. The Health, Education, and Human Services Committee is a standing committee of the
25 Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. §400(A). Among other authorities, the Committee has
26 oversight over veterans and veterans’ services. 2 N.N.C. §401(B)(6)(a); 2 N.N.C. §1035.

27 C. The Navajo Nation’s FY2022 Budget Instruction Manual (“BIM”) explains that a “budget
28 revision involves a change to an approved budget that deviates from the approved financial
29 plan” and a “budget reallocation” is the “transfer or reallocation of budget funds between
30 business units” BIM, Sect. XI(C), Sect. XI(C)(2). The terms “budget reallocation”

1 and “budget revision” are used interchangeably herein, and have the same meaning.

2 D. The BIM requires that all Budget Revision requests shall be reviewed by the Office of
3 Management and Budget (“OMB”), and the OMB Executive Director shall approve or
4 disapprove the request. BIM, Sect. XI(E)(3) and XI(E)(4).

5 E. The BIM further provides that oversight committee approval shall be required before a
6 budget reallocation is processed. BIM, Sect. XI(C)(2).

7 F. According to 2 N.N.C. §185(A), a Navajo Nation program’s or department’s requested
8 budget revision request must be approved by a two-third’s vote of the oversight committee
9 members. 2 N.N.C. §185(A).

10 G. The Navajo Nation Veterans Trust Fund is established under 12 N.N.C: §1171. The
11 purpose of this Fund is to “provide funding for veterans programs, projects and services or
12 activities which may include, but [are] not limited to program/project development,
13 community/economic development, housing, training and employment opportunities,
14 leveraging or matching funds for exemplary projects, protection and advocacy services,
15 financial assistance of benefits and services, education and scholarship, and survivor's
16 benefits for the surviving spouses of deceased veterans.” 12 N.N.C. §1172.

17
18 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

19 A. The Navajo Nation Veterans Administration (“NNVA”) is requesting approval of four
20 separate Budget Revisions, as shown in the NNVA’s Budget Revision Request forms
21 attached hereto as **EXHIBITS A-D**, as follows:

22 \$6,897.36 from Business Unit #703127 into Business Unit #703126 (**EXHIBIT A**);

23 \$417,980.37 from Business Unit #703127 into Business Unit #703129 (**EXHIBIT B**);

24 \$49,030.54 from Business Unit #703127 into Business Unit #703128 (**EXHIBIT C**);

25 \$236,575.67 from Business Unit #703125 into Business Unit #703128 (**EXHIBIT D**);

26 B. The NNVA states that these four budget revisions are needed in order to evenly distribute
27 all Veterans Trust Fund carryover amounts into the NNVA’s Financial Assistance Program
28 for eligible Navajo veterans, based on the current population of eligible Navajo veterans in
29 accordance with 12 N.N.C. §1176.

30 C. The OMB review and approval required by the BIM, Sect. XI(E)(3) and XI(E)(4), is

1 attached hereto as **EXHIBIT E**. OMB has indicated that the NNVA's four Budget
2 Revision Request forms are correct.

3 D. In May of 2022 the NNVA's four Budget Revision Requests were reviewed through the
4 Navajo Nation's "Section 164 Review" process, and the Office of the Controller, the
5 Department of Justice, and the OMB, all indicated with proper signatures that these four
6 requests are "sufficient." The pertinent "Section 164 Review" documents are attached
7 hereto as **EXHIBIT F**.

8 9 **SECTION THREE. APPROVAL OF BUDGET REVISION REQUESTS**

10 The Health, Education, and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby
11 approves the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration's four Budget Revision Requests as
12 shown in the attached **EXHIBITS A-D**, specifically as follows:

- 13 \$6,897.36 from Business Unit #703127 into Business Unit #703126 (**EXHIBIT A**);
14 \$417,980.37 from Business Unit #703127 into Business Unit #703129 (**EXHIBIT B**);
15 \$49,030.54 from Business Unit #703127 into Business Unit #703128 (**EXHIBIT C**);
16 \$236,575.67 from Business Unit #703125 into Business Unit #703128 (**EXHIBIT D**).

17 18 **SECTION FOUR. EFFECTIVE DATE**

19 This Act shall become effective as provided in 2 N.N.C. §221(C).

20 21 **SECTION FIVE. SAVING CLAUSE**

22 If any portion of this Act is determined invalid by the Navajo Nation Supreme Court, or by a
23 District Court of the Navajo Nation without appeal to the Navajo Nation Supreme Court, the
24 remainder of this Act shall be the law of the Navajo Nation.