

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0156-22_

SPONSOR: Otto Tso

TITLE: An Action Relating to Law and Order Committee, Naabik'iyáti' Committee, and the Navajo Nation Council; Confirming the Probationary Appointment of Cecelia Tallman as Navajo Nation District Court Judge

Date posted: September 13, 2022 at 3:33PM

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0156-22

DATE: September 12, 2022

AN ACTION

**RELATING TO THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; CONFIRMING THE
PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT OF CECELIA TALLMAN AS NAVAJO
NATION DISTRICT COURT JUDGE**

PURPOSE: This resolution, if approved, will confirm the probationary appointment of Cecelia Tallman as Navajo Nation District Court Judge.

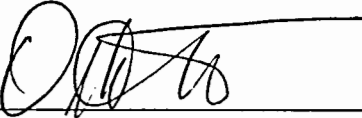
This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committee. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each committee member to review the proposed resolution in detail.

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: Johnson
Website Posting Time/Date: _____
Posting End Date: 09-18-22
Eligible for Action: 09-19-22

Law & Order Committee
Thence
Naabik'iyáti' Committee
Thence
Navajo Nation Council

1 PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION
2 24TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – Fourth Year, 2022

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 
5 _____
6 (Prime Sponsor)

7
8 TRACKING NO. 0156-22

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10 AN ACTION
11 RELATING TO LAW AND ORDER COMMITTEE, NAABIK'ÍYÁTI'
12 COMMITTEE, AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; CONFIRMING THE
13 PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT OF CECELIA TALLMAN AS NAVAJO
14 NATION DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

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17 **BE IT ENACTED:**

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19 **SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY**

- 20 A. The Navajo Nation established the Law and Order Committee as a Navajo Nation
21 standing committee and as such gave the Law and Order Committee authority to
22 recommend to the Navajo Nation President the permanent appointment of probationary
23 judges. 2 N.N.C. §§ 164 (A)(9), 600 (A), 601 (B)(IO).
- 24 B. Pursuant to 7 N.N.C. § 355 (A), the President of the Navajo Nation shall appoint the
25 Chief Justice, Associate Justices, and District Court Judges with confirmation by the
26 Navajo Nation Council from among those applicants recommended by the Law and
27 Order [Judiciary] Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.
- 28 C. Pursuant to 7 N.N.C. § 355 (A), the President of the Navajo Nation shall appoint the
29 Chief Justice, Associate Justices, and District Court Judges with confirmation by the
30

1 Navajo Nation Council from among those applicants recommended by the Law and
2 Order [Judiciary] Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.

3 D. The probationary term for District Court Judges.... shall be two (2) years from the date
4 of confirmation by the Navajo Nation Council. 7 N.N.C. § 356 (A).

5 E. The Law and Order Committee delegated its responsibility and authority to the Judicial
6 Conduct Commission to screen applicants and to recommend the probationary
7 appointment of judges and justices. LOCS-19-18.

8 F. The Judicial Conduct Commission made its recommendation to the Navajo Nation
9 President for Cecelia Tallman to be appointed as a probationary judge of the Navajo
10 Nation. JCC-03-22.

11 G. The Law and Order Committee has oversight over the administration of justice on the Navajo
12 Nation. 2 N.N.C. §600 (C)(1)

13 H. The Naabik'iyáti' Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council
14 that considers all proposed final actions by the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C.
15 §164(A)(9).

16 I. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 102 (A).

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18 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

19 A. Cecelia Tallman is an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation and is an applicant for
20 appointment as a probationary Navajo Nation District Court judge.

21 B. The Navajo Nation President appointed Cecelia Tallman as a probationary Navajo
22 Nation District Court judge, subject to confirmation by the Navajo Nation Council. See
23 Appointment Letter **EXHIBIT A**.

24 C. The Judicial Conduct Commission reviewed Mr. Tallman's application, qualifications,
25 and conducted an interview.

26 D. The Judicial Conduct Commission has determined that Cecelia Tallman meets the
27 qualifications for appointment as a probationary Navajo Nation District Court Judge
28 and has recommended her for probationary appointment. See JCC-03-22, attached
29 hereto as **EXHIBIT B**.

1 **SECTION THREE. CONFIRMATION PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT**

2 The Navajo Nation Council hereby confirms Ms. Cecelia Tallman as a probationary Navajo
3 Nation District Court Judge.

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5 **SECTION FOUR. NAVAJO NATION PRIVACY ACT RESTRICTIONS**

6 Confidential information within application documents shall remain protected. Access to
7 protected documents, will be made available to authorized persons pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 81
8 el seq., and therefore will not be publicly posted.

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