

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0168-22_

SPONSOR: Edison Wauneka

TITLE: An Action Relating to Health, Education and Human Services Committee; Approving Amendments to the Navajo Nation Division of Social Services' Professional Standards and Ethics Manual; Removing the "Financial Services Protocol" Section and Include the "Burial Assistance and General Assistance Policy Manual"

Date posted: September 22, 2022 at 4:16PM

Digital comments may be e-mailed to comments@navajo-nsn.gov

Written comments may be mailed to:

Executive Director
Office of Legislative Services
P.O. Box 3390
Window Rock, AZ 86515
(928) 871-7586

Comments may be made in the form of chapter resolutions, letters, position papers, etc. Please include your name, position title, address for written comments; a valid e-mail address is required. Anonymous comments will not be included in the Legislation packet.

Please note: This digital copy is being provided for the benefit of the Navajo Nation chapters and public use. Any political use is prohibited. All written comments received become the property of the Navajo Nation and will be forwarded to the assigned Navajo Nation Council standing committee(s) and/or the Navajo Nation Council for review. Any tampering with public records are punishable by Navajo Nation law pursuant to 17 N.N.C. §374 *et. seq.*

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET
Tracking No. 0168-22

DATE: September 21, 2022

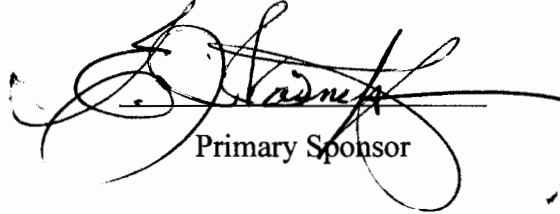
TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE; APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE NAVAJO NATION DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES' PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND ETHICS MANUAL; REMOVING THE "FINANCIAL SERVICES PROTOCOL" SECTION AND INCLUDE THE "BURIAL ASSISTANCE AND GENERAL ASSISTANCE POLICY MANUAL"

PURPOSE: This resolution, if approved, will establish the COVID-19 Relief Donation Fund to house financial donations made to the Nation for its COVID-19 response efforts.

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.

PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – Fourth Year, 2022

Introduced by:



Primary Sponsor

Tracking No. 0168-22

AN ACTION

RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE; APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE NAVAJO NATION DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES' PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND ETHICS MANUAL; REMOVING THE "FINANCIAL SERVICES PROTOCOL" SECTION AND INCLUDE THE "BURIAL ASSISTANCE AND GENERAL ASSISTANCE POLICY MANUAL"

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

A. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council and has legislative oversight over the Navajo Nation Division of Social Services ("DSS") and its programs. The Committee is also empowered to review, recommend or propose the adoption, amendment or rescission of the Plans of Operation for DSS programs. 2 N.N.C. §§ 400(A), 401(C)(1).

B. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is authorized to establish Navajo Nation policy and promulgate rules and regulations governing human services and general government services of the Navajo Nation, including those services provided by DSS. 2 N.N.C. § 401(B)(1).

1 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

- 2 A. In Resolution No. HEHSCMA-0108, passed in May of 2008, the Health, Education
3 and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council approved the Navajo
4 DSS' Professional Standards and Ethics Manual ("PSE Manual"), which included a
5 section on "Financial Services Protocol". **Exhibit A.**
- 6 B. DSS wishes to revise the "Financial Services Protocol" section of the PSE Manual in
7 its entirety. This section sets forth criteria and procedures for Burial Assistance,
8 General Assistance, Tribal Work Experience Program, Emergency Assistance,
9 Community Services Block Grant ("CSBG"), and Low-Income Home Energy
10 Assistance Program ("LIHEP"), is now being totally revised. LIHEAP and CSBG
11 manuals have already been adopted.
- 12 C. DSS desires to include the new Burial Assistance and General Assistance Policy
13 Manual ("Assistance Manual"). **Exhibit B.**
- 14 D. The DSS' Professional Standards and Ethics Manual, Financial Services Protocol is
15 provided as **Exhibit A**, and is stricken in its entirety. The proposed new Assistance
16 Manual is attached as **Exhibit B**, which is underlined in its entirety because all
17 provisions are new.
- 18 E. The Navajo Nation Department of Justice has reviewed the proposed amendments
19 and deemed the amendments legally sufficient. Section 164 Review Form is attached
20 as **Exhibit C.**

21
22 **SECTION THREE. APPROVAL**

- 23 A. The Navajo Nation hereby approves the proposed amendments to the Navajo Nation
24 Division of Social Services' Professional Standards and Ethic Manual, pertaining to
25 the Navajo Family Assistance Services: Burial Assistance and General Assistance
26 Policy Manual.

27
28 **SECTION FOUR. EFFECTIVE DATE**

- 29 A. This Action shall be effective in accordance with 2 N.N.C. § 221(C).
- 30

1 B. The new Navajo Family Assistance Services: Burial Assistance and General
2 Assistance Policy Manual shall become effective on the first day of the first month
3 following the approval of the Health, Education, and Human Services Committee.
4

5 **SECTION FIVE. SAVING CLAUSE**

6 If any provision of this Policy Manual is determined invalid by the Supreme Court of the
7 Navajo Nation, or by any Navajo Nation District Court without appeal to the Navajo
8 Nation Supreme Court, the remainder of this Policy Manual shall be the law of the
9 Navajo Nation.
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30