

THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
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LEGISLATION NO: \_0219-22\_

SPONSOR: Eugene Tso

**TITLE An Action Relating to the Navajo Nation Council; Selecting and Confirming the Speaker of the 24th Navajo Nation Council for the Remainder of the Term**

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## LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0219-22

**DATE:** November 8, 2022

**TITLE OF RESOLUTION:** AN ACTION RELATING TO THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; SELECTING AND CONFIRMING THE SPEAKER OF THE 24<sup>TH</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this legislation is to select and confirm a new Speaker of the 24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council to serve until the 25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council is installed.

**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.**

1 PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION  
2 24<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – Fourth Year, 2022  
3  
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6 Prime Sponsor

*Daniel E. Do*

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8 TRACKING NO. 0219-22  
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10 AN ACTION  
11 RELATING TO THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; SELECTING AND  
12 CONFIRMING THE SPEAKER OF THE 24<sup>TH</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL  
13 FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM  
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15 BE IT ENACTED:

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17 SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- 18 A. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation and shall
- 19 consist of 24 delegates. 2 N.N.C. §102 (A).
- 20 B. The Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council is selected by and serves at the pleasure of
- 21 the Navajo Nation Council. *See* 2 N.N.C. §§ 282 (A) and (C).
- 22 C. The Navajo Nation Council shall select and confirm a Speaker of the Navajo Nation
- 23 Council as the first order of business at the Council session scheduled for the fourth
- 24 Monday in January of any odd numbered year. 2 N.N.C. § 282 (C).
- 25 D. If a vacancy should occur in the Office of the Speaker, the Navajo Nation Council
- 26 shall select and confirm from among its members a successor for the remainder of the
- 27 term. 2 N.N.C. § 286 (B).

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29 SECTION TWO. FINDINGS  
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- 1 A. There is established the Office of the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C.  
2 § 281 (A).
- 3 B. The Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council shall be a member of the Navajo Nation  
4 Council in good standing. 2 N.N.C. § 281 (B).
- 5 C. The Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council shall serve at the pleasure of the Navajo  
6 Nation Council and shall serve for a term of two (2) years. 2 N.N.C. § 282 (A) and  
7 (B).
- 8 D. On January 25, 2021, Council Delegate Seth Damon was selected and confirmed as  
9 Speaker of the 24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council for a term of two (2) years ending upon  
10 installation of the 25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council in January of 2023. CJA-02-21,  
11 attached herein as **Exhibit 1**.
- 12 E. After numerous lengthy discussions and caucuses with the Delegates of the 24<sup>th</sup>  
13 Navajo Nation Council, it was agreed that Speaker Damon would resign as Speaker  
14 of the 24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council in order to treat and heal personal challenges and  
15 that his resignation would not take effect until a new Speaker of the 24<sup>th</sup> Navajo  
16 Nation Council was confirmed pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 286 (B). **Exhibit 2**.
- 17 F. The 24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council further agreed that the new Speaker will not dismiss  
18 any of the current Office of the Speaker staff prior to the installation of the 25<sup>th</sup>  
19 Navajo Nation Council and that Speaker Damon will retain his Employee Housing  
20 residence until the installation of the 25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council.
- 21 G. Pursuant to Navajo Nation Council Resolution CJA-03-11, each Council shall be  
22 authorized to select a Speaker pursuant to its own process and procedures. Under  
23 CJA-02-21, **Exhibit 1**, the 24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council affirmed its use of the process  
24 and procedures set forth in CJA-03-11, attached herein as **Exhibit 3**.

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26 **SECTION THREE. SELECTION AND CONFIRMATION**

- 27 A. The Navajo Nation Council hereby selects the Honorable  
28 \_\_\_\_\_ as Speaker of the 24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council.  
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1 B. The Navajo Nation Council hereby confirms the Honorable  
2 \_\_\_\_\_ to serve as Speaker of the 24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation  
3 Council with all powers and duties delegated by Navajo Nation law.

4 C. The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_ term as Speaker shall expire upon the  
5 installation of the 25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council.

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7 **SECTION FOUR. EFFECTIVE DATE**

8 This Action and the selection and confirmation of the Speaker of the 24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation  
9 Council shall be effective pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 221 (C).

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