

THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: \_0004-23\_

SPONSOR: Herman Daniels, Jr.

**TITLE: An Action Relating to an Emergency and the Navajo Nation Council; Adopting for the Navajo Nation the 2023 Legislative Priorities of the Navajo Utah Commission, Supporting Certain Legislative Bills in the Utah Legislature, and Urging the State of Utah to Adopt the Same Priorities and Enact Such Bills into Law**

*Date posted:* January 25, 2023 at 5:10PM

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## SUMMARY OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

**Tracking No. 0004-23**

Date: January 25, 2023

**Re: AN ACTION RELATING TO AN EMERGENCY AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; ADOPTING FOR THE NAVAJO NATION THE 2023 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES OF THE NAVAJO UTAH COMMISSION, SUPPORTING CERTAIN LEGISLATIVE BILLS IN THE UTAH LEGISLATURE, AND URGING THE STATE OF UTAH TO ADOPT THE SAME PRIORITIES AND ENACT SUCH BILLS INTO LAW**

### **Purpose of this Legislation:**

to adopt the NUC 2023 legislative priorities for the Navajo Nation; to support certain House and Senate Bills in the Utah legislature; and to urge the State of Utah to adopt such priorities and pass such Bills into law.

OLC No. 23-023-1

PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION  
25<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - First Year, 2023

Introduced by:



Primary Sponsor

Tracking No. 0004-23

**AN ACTION**

**RELATING TO AN EMERGENCY AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL;  
ADOPTING FOR THE NAVAJO NATION THE 2023 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES  
OF THE NAVAJO UTAH COMMISSION, SUPPORTING CERTAIN LEGISLATIVE  
BILLS IN THE UTAH LEGISLATURE, AND URGING THE STATE OF UTAH TO  
ADOPT THE SAME PRIORITIES AND ENACT SUCH BILLS INTO LAW**

BE IT ENACTED:

**SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY**

The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §102(A). As such, the Council may consider emergency legislation. 2 N.N.C. §164(A)(16). “[M]atters constituting an emergency shall be limited to the cessation of law enforcement services, and disaster relief services, fire protection services or other direct services required as an entitlement under Navajo Nation or Federal law, or which directly threaten the sovereignty of the Navajo Nation. Such an emergency matter must arise due to the pressing public need for such resolution(s) and must be a matter requiring final action by the Council.” 2 N.N.C. §164(A)(16).

**SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

A. The Navajo Utah Commission (“NUC”) has identified ten legislative priorities for the State of Utah and the Navajo Nation to work on to benefit Utah Navajos; NUC has also indicated

1 its support of certain House and Senate Bills currently pending in the Utah legislature.

2 **EXHIBIT A.**

3 B. Adopting such legislative priorities for the Navajo Nation as a whole, and urging the State  
4 of Utah to pass such Bills, are important matters that present a threat to the Navajo Nation’s  
5 sovereignty. Furthermore, this Action is indeed a “pressing public matter” because the  
6 subject Bills are currently pending in the Utah legislature and the Utah Tribal Caucus is  
7 scheduled for February 1, 2023.

8 C. The Navajo Nation finds that this Action satisfies the definition of “emergency matter” under  
9 2 N.N.C. §164(A)(16) and is in the best interest of the Navajo People and the Navajo Nation.

10  
11 **SECTION THREE. ADOPTING FOR THE NAVAJO NATION THE 2023**  
12 **LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES OF THE NAVAJO UTAH**  
13 **COMMISSION, SUPPORTING CERTAIN LEGISLATIVE BILLS**  
14 **IN THE UTAH LEGISLATURE, AND URGING THE STATE OF**  
15 **UTAH TO ADOPT THE SAME PRIORITIES AND ENACT SUCH**  
16 **BILLS INTO LAW**

17 A. The Navajo Nation hereby adopts for the Navajo Nation as a whole the 2023 Legislative  
18 Priorities of the Navajo Utah Commission, relating to the State of Utah, as set forth in  
19 **EXHIBIT A.** Upon the effective date of this Action, such Priorities shall become the “2023  
20 Utah Legislative Priorities of the Navajo Nation.”

21 B. The Navajo Nation hereby supports the approval/passage of the Utah House and Senate Bills  
22 noted in paragraph 7 of **EXHIBIT A.**

23 C. For the benefit of Utah Navajos and the Navajo Nation as a whole, the Navajo Nation hereby  
24 urges the legislative and executive branches of the State of Utah to adopt the “2023 Utah  
25 Legislative Priorities of the Navajo Nation” and to enact into law the Utah House and Senate  
26 Bills noted in paragraph 7 of **EXHIBIT A.**

27 D. The Navajo Nation hereby specifically authorizes and directs the Navajo Nation President,  
28 the Navajo Nation Speaker and her designees, and the Naabik’íyáti’ Committee of the Navajo  
29 Nation Council, to engage in advocacy with the State of Utah, the State of Utah Legislature,  
30 Utah State Agencies, and the State of Utah Governor’s Office, for the State’s adoption of the

1 “2023 Utah Legislative Priorities of the Navajo Nation” and the enactment into law of the  
2 Utah House and Senate Bills noted in paragraph 7 of **EXHIBIT A**.

3  
4 **SECTION FOUR. EFFECTIVE DATE**

5 The provisions of this Action shall become effective in accordance with 2 N.N.C. §221(C).

6  
7 **SECTION FIVE. SAVING CLAUSE**

8 If any provision of this Action is determined invalid by the Supreme Court of the Navajo Nation  
9 or by any Navajo Nation District Court, without appeal to the Navajo Nation Supreme Court,  
10 the remainder of this Action shall remain valid as the law of the Navajo Nation.