

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0020-23_

SPONSOR: Seth Damon

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Naabik'iyáti' Committee; Renewing the Navajo Nation's Request to the U.S. Postal Service to Provide a Report to the Navajo Nation Regarding Mail Delivery and Other Postal Services Provided to Navajo Nation Chapters

Date posted: February 15, 2023 at 4:42PM

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SUMMARY OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Tracking No. 0020-23

Date: February 14, 2023

Subject: **AN ACTION RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE;
RENEWING THE NAVAJO NATION'S REQUEST TO THE U.S.
POSTAL SERVICE TO PROVIDE A REPORT TO THE NAVAJO
NATION REGARDING MAIL DELIVERY AND OTHER POSTAL
SERVICES PROVIDED TO NAVAJO NATION CHAPTERS**

Purpose of this Legislation:

to renew NABIN-47-21 that requested the U.S. Postal Service to provide a report to the Naabik'íyáti' Committee on its "Delivering for America Ten (10) Year Plan."

OLC No. 23-007-1

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: Johnson
Website Posting Time/Date: _____
Posting End Date: 02-20-23
Eligible for Action: 02-21-23

1 PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
2 25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - First Year, 2023

3 Introduced by:

4
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6 (Prime Sponsor)

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8 Tracking No. 0020-23

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10 AN ACTION

11 RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; RENEWING THE
12 NAVAJO NATION'S REQUEST TO THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE TO PROVIDE
13 A REPORT TO THE NAVAJO NATION REGARDING MAIL DELIVERY AND
14 OTHER POSTAL SERVICES PROVIDED TO NAVAJO NATION CHAPTERS

15
16 WHEREAS:

- 17 1. The Naabik'iyáti' Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council that
18 reviews and monitors the programs and activities of federal and state governmental
19 agencies, and assists in the implementation and development of programs designed to serve
20 the Navajo People and the Navajo Nation through intergovernmental relationships between
21 the Navajo Nation and such agencies. 2 N.N.C. §164(A)(9), §700(A), and §701(A)(7).
22 2. The Navajo Nation has a government-to-government relationship with the United States,
23 pursuant to the Treaty of 1868, Aug. 12, 1868, 15 Stat. 667.
24 3. Many rural communities across the Navajo Nation have no access to telecommunication
25 and internet services, and community members rely heavily on the receipt of mail and
26 packages through the U.S. Postal Service. Unfortunately, many Navajo Nation
27 communities have long suffered a lack of mail delivery and postal services entirely, and
28 some areas are limited to personal mailboxes located at gas station/convenience stores via a
29 "highway contract" that requires non-standard addressing.
30 4. In its "Delivering for America Ten (10) Year Plan" the U.S. Postal Services stated that its

1 mission is to “provide prompt, reliable, and efficient mail and package shipping services to
2 all Americans – regardless of where they live – and at affordable rates.” See **EXHIBIT 1**,
3 Executive Summary at page 4.

4 5. The USPS Postmaster General and the Chairperson of the USPS Board of Governors
5 jointly stated that the proposed 10-Year Plan will “optimize our mail and package
6 processing capabilities, improve the technology and oversight of our surface logistics
7 network, realign service standards to enable the best use of our transportation and
8 processing networks, strengthen our delivery network, . . . modernize vehicles and
9 infrastructure, revitalize our post offices, enable long-term postal careers for employees,
10 and innovate solutions and services for customers.” See **EXHIBIT 1**, Letter at page 3.

11 6. As Navajo communities grow, full postal services including the construction of new brick
12 and mortar post offices, are desperately needed to provide adequate mail delivery and other
13 postal services to the Navajo People, and to fulfill the U.S. Postal Service’s commitment to
14 reach all underserved communities across the United States.

15 7. One example is the Many Farms Chapter of the Navajo Nation. Many Farms, with the
16 support of U.S. Senator Mark Kelly from Arizona, is specifically requesting a new post
17 office. **EXHIBIT 2**. Other Navajo communities are also seeking new post office facilities.

18 8. The Navajo People deserve to know that the U.S. Post Office has indeed recognized the
19 substandard, or nonexistent, mail delivery and other postal services at many locations
20 throughout the Navajo Nation, and how the implementation of the “Delivering for America
21 Ten (10) Year Plan” will result in new and upgraded postal services for their communities.

22 9. In Resolution No. NABIN-47-21, the Naabik’íyáti’ Committee of the Navajo Nation
23 Council formally requested the U.S. Postal Service to provide a report explaining its 10-
24 Year Plan. Unfortunately the Navajo Nation never received a response from the U.S. Postal
25 Service, regarding this request. **EXHIBIT 3**.

26
27 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

28 The Navajo Nation hereby requests the U.S. Postal Service to provide a report to the
29 Naabik’íyáti’ Committee explaining how the “Delivering for America Ten (10) Year Plan”
30 will improve mail delivery and other postal services throughout the Navajo Nation.