

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0029-23_

SPONSOR: Seth Damon

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Health, Education and Human Services and Naabik'iyáti' Committees; Reaffirming NABIN-70-18: Respectfully Requesting the United States Veteran Affairs Administration to Establish a Veterans Hospital and Create Personnel Positions to Address Housing and Benefits on the Navajo Nation for Navajo Nation Veterans

Date posted: March 2, 2023 4:35 PM

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET
Tracking No. 0029-23

DATE: February 27, 2023

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES; REAFFIRMING NABIN-70-18: RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES VETERAN AFFAIRS ADMINISTRATION TO ESTABLISH A VETERANS HOSPITAL AND CREATE PERSONNEL POSITIONS TO ADDRESS HOUSING AND BENEFITS ON THE NAVAJO NATION FOR NAVAJO NATION VETERANS

PURPOSE: This resolution, if approved, will reaffirm NABIN-70-18.

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: 03-07-23
Eligible for Action: 03-08-23

1 PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
2 25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL—FIRST YEAR, 2023

3 INTRODUCED BY

4
5 

6 Primary Sponsor

7 TRACKING NO. 0029-23

8
9 AN ACTION

10 RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI'
11 COMMITTEES; REAFFIRMING NABIN-70-18: RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE
12 UNITED STATES VETERAN AFFAIRS ADMINISTRATION TO ESTABLISH A
13 VETERANS HOSPITAL AND CREATE PERSONNEL POSITIONS TO ADDRESS
14 HOUSING AND BENEFITS ON THE NAVAJO NATION FOR NAVAJO NATION
15 VETERANS
16

17
18 WHEREAS:

- 19 A. The Navajo Nation established the Health, Education and Human Services Committee
20 (HEHS) as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee and as such empowered HEHS
21 to review and recommend resolutions regarding veterans and/or veteran services. 2
22 N.N.C. §§ 164 (A)(9), 400 (A), 401 (B)(6)(a) (2012). *See also* CO-45-12.
23
24 B. The Navajo Nation established the Naabik'iyáti' Committee as a Navajo Nation
25 Council standing committee and as such empowered Naabik'iyáti' Committee to
26 coordinate with all committees, Chapters, branches and entities concerned with all
27 Navajo appearances and testimony before Congressional committees, and
28 departments of the United States government. *See* 2 N.N.C. §§ 164 (A)(9), 700 (A),
29 701 (A)(8) (2015); *See also* CO-45-12.
30

- 1 C. The Navajo Nation has a government-to-government relationship with the United
2 States of America, Treaty of 1868, Aug. 12, 1868, 15 Stat. 667.
- 3 D. The Naabik'iyáti' Committee of the 23rd Navajo Nation Council passed NABIN-70-
4 18; requesting the United States Veteran Affairs Administration to establish a
5 Veterans hospital and create personnel positions to address housing and benefits for
6 Navajo Veterans on the Navajo Nation. See NABIN-70-18 attached as Exhibit 1.
- 7 E. Historically, Native Americans served in the military at a higher rate than any other
8 ethnic group. U.S. GOV'T ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE, HEALTH CARE ACCESS:
9 IMPROVED OVERSIGHT, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND PRIORITIZATION CAN IMPROVE
10 ACCESS FOR NATIVE AMERICAN VETERANS I (2014).
- 11 F. Currently, the United States has not established U.S. Veteran Affairs office or services on
12 the Navajo Nation. As such, Navajo veterans must travel off reservation to seek veteran
13 services.
- 14 G. The Navajo Nation has established a Veterans Administration through appropriations
15 from the Navajo Nation General Fund; however, assistance through the Navajo Veterans
16 Administration is limited to housing and financial assistance.
- 17 H. It is in the best interest of the Navajo Nation to request the United States Department of
18 Veterans Affairs to establish a veteran's hospital and create personnel positions to
19 address housing and other benefits on the Navajo Nation to meet the needs of the Navajo
20 veterans.
21 veterans.

22
23 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- 24 A. The 25th Navajo Nation Council reaffirms NABIN-70-18.
- 25 B. The Navajo Nation respectfully requests the United States Department of Veterans
26 Affairs to establish a veteran's hospital and create personnel positions to address housing
27 and other benefits on the Navajo Nation to meet the needs of the Navajo veterans.
- 28 C. The Navajo Nation hereby authorizes the Navajo Nation President, the Navajo Nation
29 Speaker, Navajo Washington Office and their designees, to advocate for this request.
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