

THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: \_0035-23\_

SPONSOR: Vince R. James

**TITLE: An Relating to the Health, Education and Human Services Committee; Appointing Health, Education and Human Services Committee Members to the Direct Service Tribes Advisory Committee, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Tribal Technical Advisory Committee, and the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee**

*Date posted:* March 06, 2023 at 5:17PM

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**LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET**

Tracking No. 0035-23

**DATE:** March 2, 2023

**TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, APPOINTING HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO THE DIRECT SERVICE TRIBES ADVISORY COMMITTEE, THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION TRIBAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE, AND THE TRIBAL LEADERS DIABETES COMMITTEE**

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this proposed resolution is to appoint members of the Health, Education and Human Services Committee to federal health advisory committees.

**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.**

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: Johnson  
Website Posting Time/Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Posting End Date: 03-11-23  
Eligible for Action: 03-12-23

1 PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION  
2 25<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL — First Year, 2023

3 INTRODUCED BY

4   
5 \_\_\_\_\_  
6 Primary Sponsor

7 TRACKING NO. 0035-23

8 AN ACTION

9  
10 RELATING TO THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES  
11 COMMITTEE, APPOINTING HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES  
12 COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO THE DIRECT SERVICE TRIBES ADVISORY  
13 COMMITTEE, THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES  
14 ADMINISTRATION TRIBAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE, AND THE  
15 TRIBAL LEADERS DIABETES COMMITTEE  
16

17  
18 BE IT ENACTED:

19  
20 SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- 21 A. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is established as a standing  
22 committee of the Navajo Nation Council. The committee consists of six delegates of the  
23 Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. § 400(A)-(B).  
24 B. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is empowered “[t]o establish  
25 Navajo Nation policy, promulgate rules, and regulations governing health, social  
26 services, education, human services, and general government services of the Navajo  
27 Nation and its tribal organizations, entities, and enterprises.” 2 N.N.C. § 401(B)(1).  
28 C. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee (HEHSC) is empowered “[t]o  
29 ensure compliance and implementation of laws and policies of the Navajo Nation relating  
30

1 to health, social services, education, general government services and human services. 2  
2 N.N.C. § 401(B)(1).  
3

4 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

5 A. The Direct Service Tribes Advisory Committee (DSTAC) was established in 2005  
6 to provide leadership that advises the Indian Health Services Director on the  
7 development of health policy and participates in IHS decision making that affects  
8 the delivery of health care.

9 B. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Tribal  
10 Technical Advisory Committee (SAMHSA TTAC) provides a forum where tribal  
11 leadership and SAMHSA staff can exchange information about public health  
12 issues, identify urgent mental health and substance abuse needs, and discuss  
13 collaborative approaches to addressing behavioral health needs.

14 C. The Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee (TLDC) recommends to the Indian  
15 Health Services Director a process for distributing Special Diabetes Program for  
16 Indians funds including policy and advocacy concerning diabetes and related  
17 chronic illnesses.

18 D. The HEHSC appoints its committee members to serve as alternate representatives  
19 along with Navajo Nation President Dr. Buu Nygren as the primary representative  
20 to each of the respective committees:

- 21 1. Delegate Germaine Simonson, Vice Chair of HEHSC is appointed to  
22 DSTAC, as indicated in **Exhibit A**;
- 23 2. Delegate Curtis Yanito of HEHSC is appointed to SAMHSA TTAC, as  
24 indicated in **Exhibit B**; and
- 25 3. Delegate George Tolth of HEHSC is appointed to TLDC as indicated in  
26 **Exhibit C**.

27 E. The Navajo Department of Health Executive Director, Rhonda Tuni. Esq. and her  
28 staff will provide technical support to HEHSC members to prepare for these  
29 meetings.  
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1 **SECTION THREE. APPROVAL**

2 The HEHSC appoints its committee members to serve as alternate representatives, as  
3 follows:

- 4 1. Delegate Germaine Simonson, Vice Chair of HEHSC is appointed to  
5 DSTAC;
- 6 2. Delegate Curtis Yanito of HEHSC is appointed to SAMHSA TTAC; and
- 7 3. Delegate George Tolth of HEHSC is appointed to TLDC.

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