

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0143-23_

SPONSOR: Shawna Ann Claw

TITLE: An Action Relating to Resources and Development; Confirming Melissa Begay, M.D., to Serve on the Navajo Agricultural Products Industry Board of Directors for a Term of Three Years Representing Chinle Agency

Date posted: June 28, 2023 at 4:46PM

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0143-23

DATE: June 27, 2023

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION; AN ACTION RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT; CONFIRMING MELISSA BEGAY, M.D., TO SERVE ON THE NAVAJO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS REPRESENTING CHINLE AGENCY

PURPOSE: The purpose of the resolution is to confirm the appointment of Melissa Begay, M.D., to the Navajo Agricultural Products Industry Board of Directors representing Chinle Agency for a term of three years.

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 AD
Website Posting Time/Date _____
Posting End Date: 07-03-23
Eligible for Action: 07-04-23

1 PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
2 25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – First Year, 2023
3 INTRODUCED BY

4 
5

6 (Prime Sponsor)

7
8 TRACKING NO. 0143-23
9

10 AN ACTION
11 RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT; CONFIRMING MELISSA
12 BEGAY, M.D., TO SERVE ON THE NAVAJO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS
13 INDUSTRY BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS
14 REPRESENTING CHINLE AGENCY
15

16 **SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY**

- 17 A. The Resources and Development Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo
18 Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. §500 (A).
19 B. The President of the Navajo Nation appoints and the Resources and Development
20 Committee confirms the directors to the Navajo Agricultural Products Industry. 5
21 N.N.C. §1603 (A); CO-45-12, Section Five, References to previous Standing
22 Committees.
23

24 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

- 25 A. Pursuant to 5 N.N.C. §1603 (B), the Navajo Agricultural Products Industry (NAPI)
26 “Board of Directors shall set policy including, but not limited to, establishing personnel
27 policies, procurement policies and financial policies for NAPI. The Board of Directors
28 shall hire and supervise the Chief Executive Officer who shall hire under contract a
29 Chief Financial Officer. The Chief Financial Officer shall be accountable to the Board
30 of the Directors and to the Chief Executive Officer and shall be supervised by the Chief

1 Executive Officer in conformity with job descriptions established for the Chief
2 Financial Officer and the Chief Executive Officer, and with Navajo Agricultural
3 Products Industry's approved policies and procedures. The Chief Financial Officer shall
4 submit all monthly, quarterly and annual reports to the Chief Executive Officer and
5 Board of Directors simultaneously.”

6 B. Pursuant to 5 N.N.C. §1604, “[t]he Navajo Agricultural Products Industry shall operate
7 under the legislative oversight of the Resources and Development Committee of the
8 Navajo Nation Council . . . NAPI shall operate pursuant to a Plan of Operation
9 recommended by the NAPI Board of Directors in consultation with the President of the
10 Navajo Nation and adopted by the Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo
11 Nation Council.” CO-45-12, Section Five, References to previous Standing Committees.

12 C. Pursuant to 5 N.N.C. §1603 (A), “[n]o elected official of the federal, state or Navajo
13 Nation government shall be a member of the Board of Directors. No employee of the
14 federal, state or Navajo Nation government shall be a member of the Board of
15 Directors.” See also RDCS-049-19.

16 D. Pursuant to RDCS-049-19, the Navajo Agricultural Products Industry’s Amended Plan
17 of Operation Article 5 (A), “NAPI shall be managed by a Board of Directors that shall
18 provide governance and oversight of the organization, subject to the restrictions of this
19 Plan of Operation and applicable law. The Board shall consist of five (5) members from
20 the Western, Chinle, and Eastern Agencies of the Navajo Nation. At least one Director
21 shall be from District 13 and one Director shall be from District 19.

22 E. Pursuant to RDCS-049-19, the Navajo Agricultural Products Industry’s Amended Plan
23 of Operation Article 5 (C) and (D) state the qualifications and term of service: “Each
24 Director shall have substantial business experience which shall include, but not be limited
25 to agribusiness and/or business marketing, livestock, agricultural economics and finance,
26 irrigation and P.L. 93-638 contracting. It is preferred that each Director shall have
27 knowledge of corporate and/or business financial statements and capital investment
28 planning and shall possess a Bachelor’s degree from a recognized and accredited four-
29 year institution of higher learning. . . . Directors shall serve staggered terms of three
30 (3) years and may be reappointed to serve additional terms.”

1 F. The President of the Navajo Nation, by memorandum dated April 4, 2023, attached as
2 **Exhibit A**, has appointed Melissa Begay, M.D., to the Navajo Agricultural Products
3 Industrial Board of Directors to represent the Chinle Agency.

4 G. Melissa Begay, M.D.'s letter of interest, her résumé, and her Certificate of Navajo Indian
5 Blood are attached hereto as **Exhibits B, C, and D**, respectively.

6 H. Melissa Begay, M.D., meets the qualifications to be a Director for the Navajo
7 Agricultural Products Industry.

8
9 **SECTION THREE. CONFIRMING MELISSA BEGAY, M.D., AS A DIRECTOR**

10 The Resource and Development Committee hereby confirms the appointment of Melissa
11 Begay, M.D., to the Navajo Agricultural Products Industry Board of Directors
12 representing Chinle Agency for a term of three years.