

THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: \_0161-23\_

SPONSOR: Rickie Nez

**TITLE: An Action Relating to Resources and Development Committee;  
Confirming the Navajo Nation President's Appointment of Mr. LoRenzo C. Bates to  
the Navajo Nation Water Rights Commission as the Northern Agency  
Commissioner**

*Date posted:* July 27, 2023 at 7:10PM

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**LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET**  
Tracking No. 0161-23

**DATE:** July 27, 2023

**TITLE OF RESOLUTION:** AN ACTION RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE; CONFIRMING THE NAVAJO NATION PRESIDENT'S APPOINTMENT OF MR. LORENZO C. BATES TO THE NAVAJO NATION WATER RIGHTS COMMISSION AS THE NORTHERN AGENCY COMMISSIONER

**PURPOSE:** This resolution, if approved, will confirm the appointment of Lorenzo C. Bates to the Navajo Nation Water Rights Commission as its Northern Agency Commissioner.

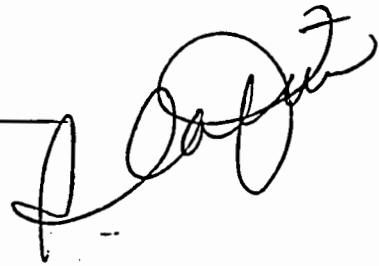
**This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committee. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each committee member to review the proposed resolution in detail.**

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD Al Mike  
Website Posting Time/Date  
Posting End Date: 08-01-23  
Eligible for Action: 08-02-23

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

3 INTRODUCED BY

4  
5  
6 (Prime Sponsor)  
7 Tracking No. 0161-23



8 AN ACTION  
9 RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE;  
10 CONFIRMING THE NAVAJO NATION PRESIDENT’S APPOINTMENT OF  
11 MR. LORENZO C. BATES TO THE NAVAJO NATION WATER RIGHTS  
12 COMMISSION AS THE NORTHERN AGENCY COMMISSIONER

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14 BE IT ENACTED:

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16 SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- 17 A. The Resources and Development Committee is established as a standing committee of  
18 the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. § 500 (A).  
19 B. The Resources and Development Committee has legislative authority to grant final  
20 confirmation of appointments to the Navajo Nation Water Rights Commission. 2  
21 N.N.C. § 501 (B) (9); GSCAP-07-04, attached as Exhibit 1.

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23 SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- 24 A. The President of the Navajo Nation is authorized to appoint one (1) member from the  
25 Northern (“Shiprock”) Agency to the Navajo Nation Water Rights Commission  
26 (“NNWRC”). Exhibit 1 (GSCAP-07-04, Exhibit A, Article 5 (C)).  
27 B. The President of the Navajo Nation has appointed Mr. LoRenzo C. Bates as the Northern  
28 Agency Commissioner of the NNWRC. Exhibit 2.

- 1 C. Mr. Bates is an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation serving on the 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>,  
2 and 23<sup>rd</sup> Navajo Nation Councils. Mr. Bates was also the elected Speaker of the Navajo  
3 Nation Council from 2014 to 2019. **Exhibit 3.**
- 4 D. Mr. Bates fulfills the requirements for appointment as the Northern Agency  
5 Commissioner of the NNWRC. **Exhibit 1** (GSCAP-07-04, Exhibit A, Article 4A and  
6 Article 5C).
- 7 E. The NNWRC Plan of Operation, attached as **Exhibit 1**, states; “Commission members  
8 representing the Navajo public shall serve a term of four (4) years and maybe be  
9 reappointed. The first appointments having been confirmed on November 19, 2022;  
10 terms thereafter will expire on November 19 of the appropriate year.”
- 11 F. It is in the best interest of the Navajo Nation that Mr. LoRenzo C. Bates be appointed  
12 and confirmed as the Northern Agency Commissioner for the Navajo Nation Water  
13 Rights Commission.

14  
15 **SECTION THREE. APPOINTMENT**

- 16 A. The Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby  
17 confirms the Navajo Nation President’s appointment of Mr. LoRenzo C. Bates to the  
18 Navajo Nation Water Rights Commission.
- 19 B. Mr. Bates’s appointment will begin upon confirmation by the Resources and  
20 Development Committee and end on November 19, 2026, fulfilling the remainder of a  
21 three-year term as provided for in the NNWRC Plan of Operation.

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23 **SECTION FOUR. EFFECTIVE DATE**

24 This Action by the Resources and Development Committee shall take effect pursuant to 2  
25 N.N.C. § 189 (A).

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