



25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 7, 2023

Navajo Nation Council commends signing of resolution to provide additional funding for Navajo veterans



25th Navajo Nation Council Speaker Crystalyne Curley joined Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren and members of the Navajo Veterans Administration in signing Resolution CJY-70-23.

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — On Monday, 25th Navajo Nation Council Speaker Crystalyne Curley (Tachee/Blue Gap, Many Farms, Nazlini, Tselani/Cottonwood, Low Mountain) joined Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren as he signed into law Resolution CJY-70-23, which amends Title 12 of the Navajo Nation Code to resolve conflicting language and allow more funding from the Navajo Nation Veterans Trust Fund set-aside to be used for programs, services, and benefits for Navajo veterans.

The legislation was sponsored by Council Delegate Carl Slater and received overwhelming support and approval by the Navajo Nation Council during the recent summer session in July.

In accordance with Title 12, the Navajo Nation Council is required to set-aside four-percent of the Navajo Nation's projected revenues in the annual Comprehensive Budget. Half of the four-percent is allocated for veterans programs, services, and benefits and the other half is allocated for the veterans housing program.

Delegate Slater said the resolution provides a “technical fix” that rectifies conflicting language that was previously adopted in 2018 and 2021, and aligns with the wishes of Navajo veterans.

“The new language conforms to what our veterans have called for and prevents another funding shortfall for Navajo veterans benefits and assistance, as we experienced during last year’s comprehensive budget,” said Delegate Slater. “I am very thankful to all of the veterans who brought this issue to the table and for my colleagues and President for supporting the legislation.”

Legislation co-sponsor Council Delegate Seth Damon stated that the amended language will provide more financial stability for the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration and ultimately help many Navajo veterans and their families.

“Many of our warriors are elderly and many have disabilities that limit their ability to provide for their families. With this resolution, we offer our appreciation to veterans and their loved ones for their service and sacrifices for us all,” said Delegate Damon.

Speaker Curley offered her appreciation to the Council, President Nygren, the Navajo Veterans Administration, and all Navajo veterans. The 25th Navajo Nation Council approved the legislation during the summer session by a vote of 18-1.

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