

THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: \_0219-23\_

SPONSOR: Cherilyn Yazzie

**TITLE: An Action Relating to the Law and Order Committee and the Health, Education, and Human Services Committee; Approving Amendments to the Navajo Nation Child Support Guidelines and Child Support Schedule**

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**LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET**  
**Tracking No. 0219-23**

**DATE:** September 1, 2023

**TITLE OF RESOLUTION:** AN ACTION RELATING TO THE LAW AND ORDER COMMITTEE AND THE HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE; APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE NAVAJO NATION CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES AND CHILD SUPPORT SCHEDULE

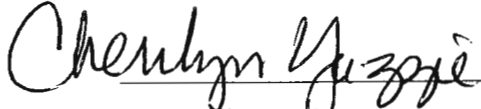
**PURPOSE:** This resolution, if approved, will enact the Amendments to the Navajo Nation Child Support Guidelines and Child Support Schedule.

**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 5/10  
Website Posting Time/Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Posting End Date: 09-10-23  
Eligible for Action: 09-11-23

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  
8 Tracking No. 0219-23  
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10  
11 AN ACTION

12 RELATING TO THE LAW AND ORDER COMMITTEE AND THE HEALTH,  
13 EDUCATION, AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE; APPROVING  
14 AMENDMENTS TO THE NAVAJO NATION CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES  
15 AND CHILD SUPPORT SCHEDULE  
16

17 BE IT ENACTED:  
18

19 SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- 20 A. The Law and Order Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council  
21 and is empowered with oversight authority over the courts and administrative legal  
22 tribunals for the purpose of improving the administration of justice on the Navajo  
23 Nation by ensuring a justice system that is independent from political influence and  
24 that is accountable and responsible to the Navajo Nation in its administration and  
25 operations, among other purposes. 2 N.N.C. § 600 and 601(C)(1).
- 26 B. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §§ 400 and 401(C), the Health, Education and Human Services  
27 Committee is a standing committee authorized to amend plans of operation for  
28 programs it oversees, including programs within the Navajo Nation Division of  
29 Human Services.  
30

1 C. The Navajo Nation Department of Child Support Enforcement (“DCSE”) is a  
2 program within the Navajo Nation Division of Human Services.

3 D. The Child Support Enforcement Act was amendment by CJA-05-21, giving authority  
4 to D to establish a scale of minimum child support contributions. 9 N.N.C. § 1706  
5 (B).  
6

## 7 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

8 A. The Navajo Nation Council, by resolution CD-111-94, adopted the “Navajo Nation  
9 Child Support Enforcement Act” and was amended by CJA-05-21 to the current  
10 “Child Support Act.”

11 B. The DCSE, among its responsibilities, enforces child support orders. The program’s  
12 plan of operations was last amended by HEESC in 2016, HEHSCD-27-16.

13 C. On July 25, 1996, in resolution JCJY-9-96, the current Basic Child Support Schedule  
14 was adopted, and has not been updated since.

15 D. The Child Support Enforcement Act, at 9 N.N.C. § 1706 (A)(7), provides that review  
16 and revision of child support guidelines should be done at least once every four years  
17 to ensure the amounts are periodically adjusted to support associated costs with care  
18 and support of children within the Navajo Nation.

19 E. To keep in compliance with Navajo Nation law and federal funding guidelines, the  
20 DCSE updated the Navajo Nation Child Support Guidelines and Basic Child Support  
21 Schedule, which is attached as **Exhibit A**.

22 F. The Navajo Nation Department of Justice has reviewed the proposed amendments,  
23 attached as **Exhibit B**, and deemed the amendments legally sufficient.  
24

## 25 **SECTION THREE. APPROVAL**

26 The Navajo Nation hereby approves the proposed amendments to the Navajo Nation  
27 Child Support Guidelines and Basic Child Support Schedule  
28

## 29 **SECTION FOUR. EFFECTIVE DATE**

30 A. This Action shall be effective in accordance with 2 N.N.C. § 221(C).

1 B. The amended Navajo Nation Child Support Guidelines and Basic Child Support  
2 Schedule shall become effective on the first day of the first month following the  
3 approval of the Health, Education and Human Services Committee.  
4

5 **SECTION FIVE. SAVING CLAUSE**

6 If any provision of the guidelines is determined invalid by the Supreme Court of the  
7 Navajo Nation, or by any Navajo Nation District Court without appeal to the Navajo  
8 Nation Supreme Court, the remainder of the guidelines shall be the law of the Navajo  
9 Nation.  
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