

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0266-23_

SPONSOR: Shawna Ann Claw

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Naabik'íyáti' Committee; Confirming the Appointment of Larry Biltah to the Black Mesa Review Board as the Black Mesa Chapter Representative for a Term of Four (4) Years

Date posted: December 15, 2023 at 4:33PM

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0266-23

DATE: December 12, 2023

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF LARRY BILTAH TO THE BLACK MESA REVIEW BOARD AS THE BLACK MESA CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE FOR A TERM OF FOUR (4) YEARS

PURPOSE: The purpose of this legislation is to confirm the appointment of Larry Biltah as the Black Mesa Chapter's representative to the Black Mesa Review Board for a term of four (4) years.

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

OLC No. 23-531-1

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD JSD
Website Posting Time/Date _____
Posting End Date: 12-20-23
Eligible for Action: 12-21-23

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

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 

5 _____
6 Primary Sponsor

7
8 TRACKING NO. 0266-23

9
10 AN ACTION

11 RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; CONFIRMING THE
12 APPOINTMENT OF LARRY BILTAH TO THE BLACK MESA REVIEW BOARD
13 AS THE BLACK MESA CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE FOR A TERM OF FOUR
14 (4) YEARS

15
16 **BE IT RESOLVED:**

17
18 **SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY**

- 19 A. The Naabik'iyáti Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council
20 has the authority to grant final confirmation of appointments to boards,
21 commissions, and colleges unless otherwise provided in law. 2 N.N.C. § 701 (A)
22 (1).
23 B. An appointment to the Black Mesa Review Board as made by the respective
24 Chapter requires confirmation by the [Naabik'iyáti] Committee. 2 N.N.C. § 903(B).
25 References made to the former Government Services Committee in the Navajo
26 Nation Code shall mean the Naabik'iyáti Committee. *See* CO-45-12, Section 5 (A).
27

28 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

- 29 A. The purpose of the Black Mesa Review Board (or the "Board") shall be to advocate
30 for fair and just compensation for Navajo families within the five Navajo Nation

1 Chapters whose socio-economic and environmental interests are adversely affected
2 or impacted by coal mining and related operations of Peabody Western Coal
3 Company (PWCC). The Board may also make appropriate recommendations to the
4 President of the Navajo Nation, the Navajo Nation Council, the Resources
5 Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, or to PWCC, concerning the health,
6 social welfare, education, and environment of the Navajo People affected by any of
7 PWCC's mining and post-mining or related operations. 2 N.N.C. § 902.

8 B. The Black Mesa Review Board shall be comprised of seven (7) members, one of
9 whom shall be appointed by the Black Mesa Chapter. Each Board appointee shall
10 serve a term of four (4) years. 2 N.N.C. § 903.

11 C. The Black Mesa Chapter has appointed Larry Biltah to the Black Mesa Review
12 Board by Resolution BMC-24-10-009, which is herein attached as **Exhibit A**.

13 D. Within thirty (30) days of their appointment, each Board appointee shall be
14 presented to the Naabik'iyáti Committee of the Navajo Nation Council for
15 confirmation. 2 N.N.C. § 903 (B).

16 E. If confirmed by the Naabik'iyáti Committee, Mr. Biltah's term shall not commence
17 until he is administered an oath of office by a judge or justice of the Navajo Nation
18 courts. 2 N.N.C. § 903 (B).

19 F. The Naabik'iyáti Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby finds that it is in
20 the best interest of the Navajo Nation to confirm the appointment of Larry Biltah
21 as the Black Mesa Chapter representative to the Black Mesa Review Board.

22 23 **SECTION THREE. CONFIRMATION**

24 The Naabik'iyáti Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby confirms the
25 appointment of Larry Biltah as the Black Mesa Chapter representative to the Black
26 Mesa Review Board for a term of four (4) years.