

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0074-24_

SPONSOR: Amber Kanazbah Crotty

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Naabik'iyáti' Committee; Supporting Funding for Victims of Crimes Act in the United States Federal Appropriations Budget for Fiscal Year 2024

Date posted: April 02, 2024 at 5:10PM

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0074-24

DATE: April 1, 2024

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE, AND THE SUPPORTING FUNDING FOR VICTIMS OF CRIMES ACT IN THE UNITED STATES FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024

PURPOSE: This resolution, if approved, supports the federal funding for Victims of Crimes Act in the U.S. Federal appropriations budget for FY 2024.

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.

Final Authority: Naabik'iyati' Committee

Vote: Simple Majority

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD
Website Posting Time/Date
Posting End Date: 04-07-24
Eligible for Action: 04-08-24

PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL—SECOND YEAR, 2024

INTRODUCED BY

Amber Kanazbah Petty
Primary Sponsor

TRACKING NO. 0074-24 *Cherilyn Fazzee*

AN ACTION
RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE;
SUPPORTING FUNDING FOR VICTIMS OF CRIMES ACT IN
THE UNITED STATES FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS BUDGET FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2024

WHEREAS:

- A. The Navajo Nation Council, as the governing body of the Navajo Nation, is entrusted with the responsibility to safeguard the interests, rights, and traditions of the Navajo People. 2 N.N.C. § 102(A).
 - B. The Navajo Nation Council established the Naabik'iyati' Committee as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee with the delegated responsibility and authority to coordinate all requests for information, appearances and testimony related to proposed county, state and federal legislation impacting the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §§ 770 (A), 701 (A)(6).
 - C. The Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (VOCA) established the Crimes Victims Fund (the Fund) as a major funding source for victim services throughout the United States.
- Exhibit A.**

1 D. The Crimes Victim Fund provides support for the following:

- 2 1. Victim Services, including funding to tribes for services and programs to
3 improve the investigation and prosecution of child abuse and neglect cases in
4 American Indian and Alaska Native communities;
- 5 2. Victim Compensation, covering medial costs, funeral and burial costs, mental
6 health counseling, and lost wages; and
- 7 3. Victim Assistance, including crisis intervention, emergency shelter, emergency
8 transportation, counseling, criminal justice advocacy.

9 E. The 2024 fiscal year budget proposes to cut VOCA funding by 40%, which would have
10 devastating results to the various programs VOCA supports.

11 F. The proposed VOCA funding reduction would impact thousands of victim services
12 providers nationwide, forcing them to close their doors and millions of victims would
13 lose access to these lifesaving services.

14 G. A reduction in VOCA funding would be especially impactful to Indian Country, as
15 Native women continue to face the highest rates of violence in the county and urgently
16 need these victim services and programs to continue to operation.

17 H. The Navajo Nation supports the letter by Honorable Amber Crotty, 25th Navajo Nation
18 Council Delegate, Chair of the MMIP Taskforce and member of the Navajo Nation
19 Budget and Finance Committee, urging Congress to maintain adequate funding for
20 VOCA in the fiscal year 2024. **Exhibit B.**

21 I. For the reasons stated above, it is in the best interest of the Navajo Nation to oppose
22 any reduction to the Victims of Crime Act for fiscal year 2024.

23 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

24 The Navajo Nation opposes any reduction to the Victims of Crime Act for fiscal year
25 2024 and urges Congress to maintain adequate funding for Victims of Crime Act to provide
26 the necessary and vital services to victims of crime throughout the United States, especially
27 in Indian Country.