

THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: \_0143-24\_

SPONSOR: Germaine Simonson

**TITLE: An Act Relating to Law and Order, Health, Education and Human Services, Naabik'iyáti' Committees, and the Navajo Nation Council; Amending 2 N.N.C. §§ 1651-1656, and § 401 (C); Changing the Name of the Division of Social Services to the Division for Children and Family Services**

*Date posted:* July 02, 2024 at 3:52PM

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**LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET**

Tracking No. 0143-24

**DATE:** July 1, 2024

**TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACT RELATING TO LAW AND ORDER, HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES, NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES, AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; AMENDING 2 N.N.C. §§ 1651-1656, AND § 401(C); CHANGING THE NAME OF THE DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO THE DIVISION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES**

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this proposed resolution is to approve a name change from the Division of Social Services to the Division for Children and Family Services.

**FINAL AUTHORITY:** Navajo Nation Council .....

**VOTE REQUIREMENT:** Simple Majority

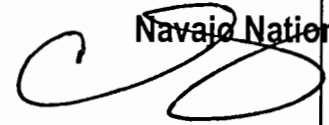
**This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committees. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each Council Delegate to review each proposed resolution in detail.**

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD Al Mike III  
Website Posting Time/Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Posting End Date: 07/07/24  
Eligible for Action: 07/08/24

Law & Order Committee  
Thence  
Health Education & Human Services Committee  
Thence  
Naabik'iyáti' Committee  
Thence  
Navajo Nation Council

1 PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION  
2 25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – Second Year, 2024

3 INTRODUCED BY



4 \_\_\_\_\_  
5  
6 (Sponsor)

7  
8 0143-24

9 TRACKING NO.

10  
11  
12 AN ACT

13 RELATING TO LAW AND ORDER, HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN  
14 SERVICES, NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES, AND THE NAVAJO NATION  
15 COUNCIL; AMENDING 2 N.N.C. §§ 1651-1656, AND § 401(C); CHANGING THE  
16 NAME OF THE DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO THE DIVISION FOR  
17 CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

18  
19 BE IT ENACTED:

20  
21 SECTION 1. AUTHORITY

- 22 A. The Law and Order Committee is empowered to review and make recommendations to  
23 the Navajo Nation Council on proposed amendments and enactments to the Navajo  
24 Nation Code. 2 N.N.C. § 601(B)(14).
- 25 B. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee has oversight of the Division of  
26 social Services. 2 N.N.C. § 401(C).
- 27 C. The Naabik'iyáti' Committee considers proposed resolutions that require final action by  
28 the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. § 164(A)(9).
- 29 D. The Navajo Nation Council approves enactments and amendments of positive law. 2  
30 N.N.C. § 164(A).

1     **SECTION 2. FINDINGS**

2     A. The Division of Social Services was established in the Executive Branch. 2 N.N.C. § 1651.

3     B. The Division is requesting a name change from Division of Social Services to Division  
4         for Children and Family Services to emphasize the work it does with children and families.

5  
6     **SECTION 3. AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 2 OF THE NAVAJO NATION CODE**

7     The Navajo Nation hereby approves amendments to the Navajo Nation Code, Title 2, as  
8     follows:

9  
10  
11                     **NAVAJO NATION CODE**  
12                     **TITLE 2. NAVAJO NATION GOVERNMENT**  
13                     **CHAPTER 3. LEGISLATIVE BRANCH**  
14                     **SUBCHAPTER 9. STANDING COMMITTEES**

15  
16     Article 2. Health, Education, and Human Services Committee

17  
18     \*\*\*

19     C. Oversight.

20     1. To serve as the oversight Committee for the Division of Health, Division for Children and  
21     Family of Social Services, Division of Human Resources Department of Diné Education,  
22     Division of General Services and to review, recommend or propose the adoption, amendment  
23     or rescission of its Plan of Operation.

24     \*\*\*

25  
26     \*\*\*\*

27  
28                     **NAVAJO NATION CODE**  
29                     **TITLE 2. NAVAJO NATION GOVERNMENT**  
30                     **CHAPTER 5. EXECUTIVE BRANCH**

1                   **SUBCHAPTER 25. DIVISION ~~OF SOCIAL~~ FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILY**  
2   **SERVICES**

3  
4       § 1651. Establishment

5       There is hereby established the Navajo Division for Children and Family ~~of Social~~ Services  
6       within the Executive Branch of the Navajo Nation.

7  
8       § 1652. Purposes

9       The purpose of the Navajo Division for Children and Family ~~of Social~~ Services shall be to  
10      provide the Navajo people with such essential social services as approved and authorized by  
11      the Navajo Nation Council and to ensure the highest quality of social welfare programs for  
12      the Navajo people by coordinating with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and other federal, state  
13      and private entities.

14  
15      § 1653. Personnel

16      The Navajo Division for Children and Family ~~of Social~~ Services shall be administered by an  
17      Executive Director whose appointment shall be made by the President of the Navajo Nation  
18      and confirmed by the Navajo Nation Council upon recommendation of the Health, Education  
19      and ~~Social~~ Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council and who shall serve at  
20      the pleasure of the President of the Navajo Nation. The Executive Director may employ a  
21      Deputy Director and shall employ such other personnel as may be deemed necessary to carry  
22      out the purposes of the Division. All personnel shall be subject to the Personnel Policies and  
23      Procedures of the Executive Branch of the Navajo Nation.

24  
25      § 1654. Organization

26      The Navajo Division for Children and Family ~~of Social~~ Services shall be comprised of such  
27      Departments, Programs, Offices and administrative components as may be deemed  
28      necessary by the Executive Director to fulfill its purpose, subject to legislative review and  
29      approval of the Division's Plan of Operation.  
30

1 § 1655. Legislative Oversight

2 The Navajo Division for Children and Family of Social Services shall operate under the  
3 legislative oversight of the Health, Education and Human Social Services Committee of the  
4 Navajo Nation Council, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 401 (C). ~~451-et-seq.~~ The Division shall  
5 operate pursuant to a Plan of Operation approved by the Health, Education and Human Social  
6 Services Committee ~~and the Government Services Committee~~ of the Navajo Nation Council.

7  
8 § 1656. Amendments

9 Sections 1651 through 1655 may be amended from time to time by the Navajo Nation  
10 Council upon recommendation by the Health, Education and Human ~~Social~~ Services  
11 Committee of the Navajo Nation Council after consultation with the Navajo Division for  
12 Children and Family of Social Services.

13  
14  
15 **SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE**

16 The amendments enacted herein shall be effective pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §221.

17  
18 **SECTION 5. CODIFICATION**

19 The provisions of the Act which amend or adopt new sections of the Navajo Nation Code  
20 shall be codified by the Office of Legislative Counsel. The Office of Legislative Counsel  
21 shall ~~incorporate such amended provisions in the next codification of the Navajo Nation~~  
22 Code.

23  
24 **SECTION 6. SAVING CLAUSE**

25 Should any portion of the amendment enacted herein be determined invalid by the Navajo  
26 Nation Supreme Court, or the District Court of the Navajo Nation, without appeal to the  
27 Navajo Nation Supreme Court, those portions not determined invalid shall remain the law of  
28 the Navajo Nation.