

THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: 0040-25

SPONSOR: Dr. Andy Nez

**TITLE: An Action Relating to the Health, Education, and Human Services  
Committee, Appointing Members to the Navajo Nation Human Research Review  
Board**

***Date posted:*** April 01, 2025 at 5:00PM.

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**LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET**

Tracking No. 0040-25

**DATE:** April 1, 2025

**TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO THE HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE NAVAJO NATION HUMAN RESEARCH REVIEW BOARD**

**PURPOSE:** This proposed resolution will appoint six (6) individuals to the Navajo Nation Human Research Review Board.

**FINAL AUTHORITY:** Health, Education and Human Services Committee

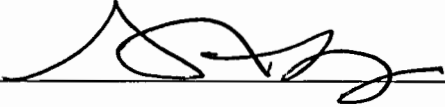
**VOTING REQUIREMENT:** Simple Majority

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 Millett  
Website Posting Time/Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Posting End Date: 4/6/25  
Eligible for Action: 4/7/25

1 PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION  
2 25<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL — Third Year, 2025

3 INTRODUCED BY

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5 \_\_\_\_\_

6 Primary Sponsor

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8 TRACKING NO. 0040-25

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10 AN ACTION  
11 RELATING TO THE HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND HUMAN SERVICES  
12 COMMITTEE, APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE NAVAJO NATION HUMAN  
13 RESEARCH REVIEW BOARD

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15 BE IT ENACTED:

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17 SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- 18 A. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is empowered “[t]o establish  
19 Navajo Nation policy, promulgate rules, and regulations governing health, social  
20 services, education, human services, and general government services of the Navajo  
21 Nation and its tribal organizations, entities, and enterprises.” 2 N.N.C. § 401(B)(1).  
22 B. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is empowered “[t]o ensure  
23 compliance and implementation of laws and policies of the Navajo Nation relating to  
24 health, social services, education, general government services and human services.” 2  
25 N.N.C. § 401(B)(1).  
26

27 SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- 28 A. The Navajo Nation Human Research Code establishes the policies and procedures  
29 for investigations, physicians, researchers, and other individuals performing  
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1 research activities on living human subjects within the territorial jurisdiction of  
2 the Navajo Nation.

3 B. The Navajo Nation Human Research Code, codified at 13 N.N.C. § 3251, *et seq.*,  
4 (the “Research Code”) created the Navajo Nation Human Research Review Board  
5 (the “Board”). The Board is comprised of 15 appointed individuals with at least  
6 two people serving on the Navajo Nation Human Research Review Board being  
7 licensed physicians and at least one being a community representative. The  
8 Board’s powers and purposes include reviewing and approving research and  
9 overseeing and assuring that research and publication activities are consistent with  
10 the health and educational goals and objectives of the Navajo Nation.

11 C. The Research Code provides that the Health, Education and Human Services  
12 Committee (“HEHSC”) shall appoint 6 members to the Board. 13 N.N.C. § 3257.

13 D. HEHSC recognizes that the Board is an administrative body established to protect  
14 the rights and welfare of Navajo research subjects and must remain free of  
15 political influences and matters related to policy-making. Therefore, appointments  
16 made to the Board by HEHSC shall not include Navajo Nation elected officials.  
17 13 N.N.C. § 3257.

18 E. HEHSC received letters of interest, letters of support, resumés and/or curricula  
19 vitae from six individuals:

- 20 1. Veronica Clark
- 21 2. Jonathan Hale
- 22 3. Christine Samuel-Nakamura
- 23 4. Mae-Gilene Begay (as a community representative)
- 24 5. Floyd Ashley; and
- 25 6. Bill Montoya.

26 Everyone’s redacted letter of interest, letter of support, resumé and/or curricula  
27 vitae is attached as **Exhibit A, Exhibit B, Exhibit C, Exhibit D, Exhibit E, and**  
28 **Exhibit F.**

29  
30 **SECTION THREE. APPOINTING MEMBERS**

1 The HEHSC appoints the following six (6) individuals to serve on the Navajo Nation  
2 Human Research Review Board:

- 3 1. Veronica Clark
- 4 2. Jonathan Hale
- 5 3. Christine Samuel-Nakamura
- 6 4. Mae-Gilene Begay (as a community representative)
- 7 5. Floyd Ashley; and
- 8 6. Bill Montoya.

9 The term of appointments shall be for three (3) years from the date of appointment in  
10 accordance with the Navajo Nation Human Research Code.

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