

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: 0093-25

SPONSOR: Eugenia Charles-Newton

TITLE: An Action Relating to Naabik'iyáti' Committee and Navajo Nation Council; Recommending the Removal of Executive Directors who have not been confirmed by the Navajo Nation Council

Date posted: May 22, 2025 at 4:31 PM

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0093-25

DATE: May 5, 2025

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE AND NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; RECOMMENDING THE REMOVAL OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS WHO HAVE NOT BEEN CONFIRMED BY THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

PURPOSE: This proposed resolution will recommend the removal of Navajo Nation division/department Executive Director who have not been confirmed by the Navajo Nation Council.

FINAL AUTHORITY: Navajo Nation Council

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: AMM
Website Posting Time/Date: _____
Posting End Date: 05/27/25
Eligible for Action: 05/28/25

Naabik'iyáti' Committee
Thence
Navajo Nation Council

PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION
25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- Third Year, 2025

INTRODUCED BY


(Prime Sponsor)

TRACKING NO. 0093-25

AN ACTION

RELATING TO NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE AND NAVAJO NATION
COUNCIL; RECOMMENDING THE REMOVAL OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS
WHO HAVE NOT BEEN CONFIRMED BY THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation and shall confirm the appointments of all division directors upon recommendation from the appropriate oversight committee. 2 N.N.C. §§ 102 (A) and (F).
- B. A proposed resolution requiring final action by the Navajo Nation Council shall be assigned to the Naabik'iyáti Committee. 2 N.N.C. § 164(A) (9).
- C. The Navajo Department of Health is administered by an Executive Director and Deputy Director. The Executive Director shall be appointed by the President of the Navajo Nation, with the approval and recommendation of the Health, Education and Human Services Committee "and the consent of the Navajo Nation Council" and shall serve at the pleasure of the President of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 1605.

- 1 D. The Executive Director of the Division of Human Resources shall be appointed by and
2 serve at the pleasure of the President of the Navajo Nation and confirmed by the Navajo
3 Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. § 1703 (A).
- 4 E. The Navajo Division of Economic Development is administered by an Executive
5 Director, who shall be appointed by the President of the Navajo Nation, “with the
6 consent of the Navajo Nation Council,” and who shall serve at the pleasure of the
7 President of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C § 1503.
- 8 F. The President of the Navajo Nation shall employ an Executive Director of the Navajo
9 Telecommunications Regulatory Commission who shall serve at the pleasure of the
10 President of the Navajo Nation and be subject to confirmation by the Government
11 Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C § 3455.
- 12 G. The Navajo Division of Community Development shall be administered by a Division
13 Director, who shall be appointed by the President of the Navajo Nation, confirmed by
14 the Navajo Nation Council, and who shall serve at the pleasure of the President of the
15 Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C § 1453(A).
- 16

17 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

- 18 A. Since July 2023, Ms. Sherylene Yazzie has been serving as the Executive Director of
19 the Department of Health.
- 20 B. Since July 2024, Ms. Reycita Toddy has been serving as the Executive Director of the
21 Division of Human Resources.
- 22 C. Since January 2023, Mr. Tony Skrelunas has been serving as the Executive Director of
23 the Division of Economic Development.
- 24 D. Since July 2024, Mr. Bryon C. Shorty has been serving as the Executive Director of
25 the Telecommunications Regulatory Commission.
- 26 E. Since January 2025, Ms. Candice Yazzie has been serving as the Executive Director of
27 the Division of Community Development.
- 28 F. The above-mentioned Executive Directors, whether through interim or permanent
29 appointment, have been serving in such capacity in excess of three (3) months without
30 confirmation by the Navajo Nation Council.

1 G. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C § 102(F), “[t]he Navajo Nation Council shall confirm the
2 appointments of all division directors upon recommendation from the appropriate
3 oversight committee. The President shall present the appointments at the next Navajo
4 Nation Council session following the date the appointments are made.”

5 H. The President of the Navajo Nation shall “[f]aithfully execute and enforce the laws of
6 the Navajo Nation.” 2 N.N.C § 1005 (F)(1).
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8 **SECTION THREE. RECOMMENDATION OF REMOVAL**

9 A. The Navajo Nation Council hereby expresses its dissatisfaction with the delay to have
10 the Executive Directors of the Navajo Department of Health, Division of Human
11 Resources, Division of Economic Development, Telecommunications Regulatory
12 Commission, and Division of Community Development confirmed by the Navajo
13 Nation Council as required under Navajo law.

14 B. The Navajo Nation Council hereby recommends to the Navajo Nation President Dr.
15 Buu Nygren, to remove Ms. Sherylene Yazzie, Ms. Reycita Toddy, Mr. Tony
16 Skrelunas, Mr. Bryon C. Shorty, and Ms. Candice Yazzie from their respective
17 Executive Director positions if there is no resolution confirming their respective
18 appointments by the adjournment of the Navajo Nation Council 2025 Summer Session.
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