

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0119-25_

SPONSOR: Danny Simpson

TITLE: An Act Relating to the Law and Order Committee and the Naabik'íyáti' Committee, and the Navajo Nation Council; Amending the Navajo Nation Criminal Code at 17 N.N.C. §320 by Recognizing Concealed Weapon Carry Permits Issued by States

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0119-25

DATE: May 1, 2025

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACT RELATING TO THE LAW AND ORDER COMMITTEE AND THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE, AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; AMENDING THE NAVAJO NATION CRIMINAL CODE AT 17 N.N.C. §320 BY RECOGNIZING CONCEALED WEAPON CARRY PERMITS ISSUED BY STATES

PURPOSE: The purpose of this proposed resolution is to exempt from the Navajo Nation Criminal Code the carrying of concealed weapons by person with a valid state concealed carry permit.

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:
Website Posting Time/Date:
Posting End Date: 06-16-25
Eligible for Action: 06-17-25

Law & Order Committee
Thence
Naabik'íyáti' Committee
Thence
Navajo Nation Council

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

INTRODUCED BY:


(Prime Sponsor)

TRACKING NO. 0119-25

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE LAW AND ORDER COMMITTEE AND THE
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE, AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL;
AMENDING THE NAVAJO NATION CRIMINAL CODE AT 17 N.N.C. §320 BY
RECOGNIZING CONCEALED WEAPON CARRY PERMITS ISSUED BY STATES

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Law and Order Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council, 2 N.N.C. §600(A), with oversight over law enforcement and the Division of Public Safety and its programs. 2 N.N.C. §600 and §601(C)(I).
- B. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee was established as a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with the authority to hear all proposed resolutions that require final action by the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. §164 (A)(9), §700(A).
- C. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §102(A). As such, the Council reviews and approves statements of policy and enactments of positive law. 2 N.N.C. §102(A); 2 N.N.C. §164 (A).

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- A. Navajo Nation law prohibits the unlawful carrying of a deadly weapon, particularly loaded

1 firearms. 17 N.N.C. §320(A).

2 B. Generally, this statutory prohibition is not intended to apply to police officers, persons in
3 private vehicles when weapons are used for protection and located in a closed
4 compartment, persons in their homes, persons in “an integral part of [a] traditional Navajo
5 religious ceremony,” and persons engaged in the hunting of predatory animals. 17 N.N.C.
6 §320(B).

7 C. The Navajo Nation has not enacted statutory law to specifically recognize, or to otherwise
8 clearly address, duly-issued state permits for the carrying and possession of concealed
9 weapons.

10
11 **SECTION THREE. AMENDING 17 N.N.C. §320**

12 The Navajo Nation Code, at 17 N.N.C. §320, is hereby amended as follows:

13 _____
14 * * * *

15 **Title 17. Law and Order**

16 **Chapter 3. Offenses**

17 **Subchapter 3. Weapons and Explosives**

18 * * * *

19 **§320. Unlawful carrying of a deadly weapon**

20 A. * * * *

21 B. Exceptions. Subsection (A) of this Section shall not apply to any of the
22 following:

23 * * * *

24 6. To a person who is issued, and lawfully possesses, a valid and current
25 permit or license for the carrying or possession of a concealed weapon,
26 which permit or license is duly issued by a state regulatory authority;
27 provided that the weapon is being carried or transported in a manner
28 consistent with the terms and conditions of the state permit or license
29 being invoked by the carrier; and the weapon, whether or not loaded,
30 shall not be carried;

- 1 (a) into any governmental building, office, facility, or property
2 maintained by any government entity;
3 (b) within 1000 feet of any school or any child care facility;
4 (c) into any church or other places of religious worship;
5 (d) within any park or recreational area that is open to the public;
6 (e) onto any public passenger transportation vehicle, or private
7 commercial vehicle used for transporting passengers;
8 (f) into or at any airport;
9 (g) into any liquor establishment, including locations where
10 alcoholic beverages are sold and consumed;
11 (h) at or in any location, whether public or private, where any sign is
12 posted prohibiting weapons of any kind; or when an owner or
13 manager of a property verbally instructs a person, regardless of a
14 valid permit, to remove the weapon or leave the premises.

15 7. Rules and Regulations. The Law and Order Committee shall be
16 authorized to enact rules and regulations consistent with the
17 concealed weapons provisions herein. Violations of such rules and
18 regulations shall be prosecuted under this Section.

19 C. Sentence.

20 * * * *

21 6. Any person found guilty of the unlawful carrying of a deadly weapon
22 may be sentenced to imprisonment for a term not to exceed 180 days,
23 or may be ordered to pay a fine not to exceed \$500, or both.

24 7. The trial court shall review all charges to ascertain whether there is a
25 personal victim(s) of the offense(s) and may order that restitution or
26 nalyeeh shall be paid to the victim(s).

27 8. The trial court may utilize the services of the Navajo Peacemaking
28 Program to determine nalyeeh and to make a recommendation
29 regarding sentencing, and the trial court may require the defendant to
30 pay the fee of the Peacemaker.

1 9. The trial court may impose a peace or security bond upon the defendant,
2 including the pledges of family or clan sureties.

3 10. Upon the imposition of a bond or security pledges, the District Office of
4 Probation and Parole shall counsel the sureties of the consequences of
5 breach of the bond or pledge.

6 11. The trial court may impose community service sentences, to be served
7 under the supervision of an organization or an individual designated by
8 the trial court.

9 * * * *

10 _____
11
12 **SECTION FOUR. EFFECTIVE DATE**

13 This Act shall become effective in accordance with 2 N.N.C. §221(B), 2 N.N.C.
14 §1005(C)(10), and 2 N.N.C. §164(A)(17).

15
16 **SECTION FIVE. SAVING CLAUSE**

17 If any portion of this Act is determined invalid by the Navajo Nation Supreme Court, or by a
18 District Court of the Navajo Nation without appeal to the Navajo Nation Supreme Court, the
19 remainder of this Act shall be the law of the Navajo Nation.

20
21 **SECTION SIX. CODIFICATION**

22 The amendments to the Navajo Nation Code approved herein shall be codified by the Office
23 of Legislative Counsel. The Office of Legislative Counsel shall incorporate such amendments
24 in the next codification of the Navajo Nation Code.