

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0174-25_

SPONSOR: Shaandiin Parrish

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Budget and Finance Committee; Establishing an Investigatory Hearing to Determine Compliance with Navajo Nation Laws, Regulations, Rules, and Policies Concerning the Navajo Nation's Contracts for Housing and Related Matters

Date posted: July 12, 2025 at 10:48PM

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0174-25

DATE: July 12, 2025

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE; ESTABLISHING AN INVESTIGATORY HEARING TO DETERMINE COMPLIANCE WITH NAVAJO NATION LAWS, REGULATIONS, RULES, AND POLICIES CONCERNING THE NAVAJO NATION'S CONTRACTS FOR HOUSING AND RELATED MATTERS

PURPOSE: The purpose of this proposed resolution is to establish an investigatory hearing to determine compliance with Navajo Nation law concerning Navajo Nation Contracts for housing and related matters.

FINAL AUTHORITY: Budget and Finance 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: Johnson

Website Posting Time/Date: _____

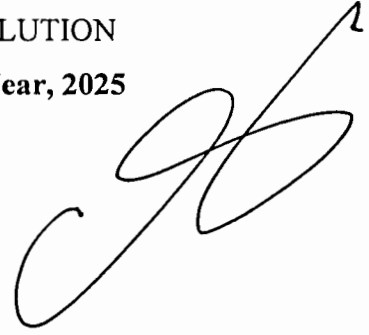
Posting End Date: 07-17-25

Eligible for Action: 07-18-25

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

INTRODUCED BY:

(Prime Sponsor)



Tracking No. 0174-25

AN ACTION
RELATING TO THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE; ESTABLISHING
AN INVESTIGATORY HEARING TO DETERMINE COMPLIANCE WITH
NAVAJO NATION LAWS, REGULATIONS, RULES, AND POLICIES
CONCERNING THE NAVAJO NATION'S CONTRACTS FOR HOUSING AND
RELATED MATTERS

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Budget and Finance Committee is a Standing Committee of the Navajo Nation Council with the responsibility to protect the interests of the Navajo people through the prudent management of the financial reserves of the Navajo Nation and the use of funds available for expenditure by the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 300 (C)(4).
- B. The Budget and Finance Committee has the responsibility to exercise oversight authority over the budget, finance, investment, contracting, accounting, and audit activities of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 300(C).
- C. The Budget and Finance Committee has been delegated the enumerated power, among other powers, to:

- 1 1. Review and recommend to the Navajo Nation Council the budgeting,
2 appropriation, investment and management of all funds. 2 N.N.C. §
3 301(B)(2);
- 4 2. Review the use of Navajo Nation funds received from all sources. 2 N.N.C. §
5 301(B)(3);
- 6 3. Coordinate and review all fiscal, financial and investment activities of the
7 Navajo Nation and its enterprises, as well as other agencies, federal, state,
8 regional and private, expending or seeking to expend funds within the Navajo
9 Nation or for the benefit of the Navajo People. 2 N.N.C. § 30 (B)(5); and
- 10 4. Require reports from and to monitor the financial performance of all offices,
11 divisions, departments, enterprises, authorities, committees, boards,
12 commissions, or entities having oversight or control over fiscal matters or
13 financial obligations to the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 301(B)(9).

14 D. Standing Committees of the Navajo Nation Council “shall have the power to
15 subpoena and acquire from any executive department, bureau, agency, board,
16 commission, office, independent establishment or instrumentality, information,
17 suggestions, estimates, and statistics necessary for execution of the purposes and
18 authorities [of the Committee]. Each such department, bureau, agency, board,
19 commission, office, establishment or instrumentality is authorized and directed to
20 furnish to the extent permitted by law such information, suggestions, estimates and
21 statistics directly to the committee. . . upon request by the Chairperson.” 2 N.N.C. §
22 185(B).

23 E. Standing Committees “may, for the purpose of carrying out [committee] purposes
24 and authorities, hold such hearings and shall have the power to subpoena the
25 attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of books, records,
26 memoranda, papers and documents as deemed advisable.” 2 N.N.C. § 185(C).

27 F. Standing Committee “subpoenas and orders may be enforced by the courts of the
28 Navajo Nation by means of civil enforcement of committee action. A committee, by
29 the Office of Legislative Counsel, may apply to the District Court of the Window
30

1 Rock Judicial District for an order to enforce any committee subpoena.” 2 N.N.C. §
2 185(F).
3

4 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

- 5 A. Standing Committees, including the Budget and Finance Committee, have received
6 information, both oral and written, from Navajo Nation officials, employees, and
7 community members suggesting that the Navajo Nation’s contracts, including
8 procurement, payments, etc., with ZenniHome and Indigenous Design Studio +
9 Architects do not comply with Navajo Nation laws, regulations, rules, and policies.
- 10 B. The Budget and Finance Committee finds that the information received about
11 ZenniHome and Indigenous Design Studio + Architects to be credible and deserving
12 of further investigation.
13

14 **SECTION THREE. AUTHORIZATION AND DIRECTIVE**

- 15 A. The Budget and Finance Committee shall hold an investigatory hearing to determine
16 whether contracts, including procurement, payments, etc., for modular housing
17 entered into by the Navajo Nation with ZenniHome, Indigenous Design Studio +
18 Architects, and other vendors complied with Navajo Nation laws, regulations, rules,
19 and policies.
- 20 B. The Budget and Finance Committee shall commence the investigatory hearing no
21 later than August 31, 2025, and shall adopt and publish Hearing Rules at least five
22 (5) days prior to the start of the hearing.
- 23 C. At the conclusion of the investigatory hearing, the Budget and Finance Committee
24 shall provide a written and oral report to the Navajo Nation Council setting forth the
25 Committee’s findings and recommendations for further action, if any.
- 26 D. The Office of Legislative Counsel, Office of Legislative Services, and Office of the
27 Auditor General shall advise and represent the Budget and Finance Committee during
28 the investigatory hearing.
- 29 E. Divisions, programs, offices, contractors, employees, officials, and witnesses shall
30 preserve all communications and documents, whether paper or electronic, concerning

1 or related to the issues being investigated by the Budget and Finance Committee.

2
3 **SECTION FOUR. SAVING CLAUSE**

4 If any portion of this Action is determined invalid by the Navajo Nation Supreme Court,
5 or by a District Court of the Navajo Nation without appeal to the Navajo Nation Supreme
6 Court, the remainder of this Action shall be the law of the Navajo Nation.