

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0178-25_

SPONSOR: Brenda Jesus

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Resources and Development and Naabik'íyáti' Committees and the Navajo Nation Council; Extending the Time for a Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity Through September 30, 2029 to Allow the Navajo Nation to be Sued in Federal District Court Regarding Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act in Carrying Out United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Grants and Authorizing the Navajo Nation President to be the Certifying Tribal Official to Execute Form 7015.15

Date posted: July 23, 2025 at 7:03PM

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET
Tracking No. 0178-25

DATE: July 23, 2025

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; EXTENDING THE TIME FOR A LIMITED WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2029 TO ALLOW THE NAVAJO NATION TO BE SUED IN FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT REGARDING COMPLIANCE WITH THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT IN CARRYING OUT UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT GRANTS AND AUTHORIZING THE NAVAJO NATION PRESIDENT TO BE THE CERTIFYING TRIBAL OFFICIAL TO EXECUTE FORM 7015.15

PURPOSE: The purpose of the proposed resolution is to authorize an extension of time for a limited waiver of sovereign immunity to allow the Navajo Nation to be sued in the Federal District Court for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (or "NEPA") to carry out the federal Housing and Urban Development grants and to authorize the Navajo Nation President to sign form 7015.15 "Request for Release of Fund and Certification".

FINAL AUTHORITY: Navajo Nation Council

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: 07-28-25
Eligible for Action: 07-29-25

Resources & Development Committee

Thence

Naabik'iyáti' Committee

Thence

Navajo Nation Council

PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION

25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – Third Year, 2025

Introduced by:


(Sponsor)

Tracking No. 0178-25

AN ACTION

RELATING TO THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT AND
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL;
EXTENDING THE TIME FOR A LIMITED WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN
IMMUNITY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2029 TO ALLOW THE NAVAJO
NATION TO BE SUED IN FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT REGARDING
COMPLIANCE WITH THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT IN
CARRYING OUT UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND
URBAN DEVELOPMENT GRANTS AND AUTHORIZING THE NAVAJO
NATION PRESIDENT TO BE THE CERTIFYING TRIBAL OFFICIAL TO
EXECUTE FORM 7015.15

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Resources and Development Committee was established as a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with oversight over housing for the purposes of establishing policies and legislation appropriate to the housing needs of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 500(C)(3).
- B. The Navajo Nation established the Naabik'iyáti' Committee as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee. Any proposed legislation requiring Navajo Nation

1 Council approval shall be assigned to the Naabik'íyáti' Committee to. 2 N.N.C. §
2 164(A)(9).

3 C. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §
4 102(A).

5 6 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

7 A. Resolution CJA-13-00 approved a limited waiver of sovereign immunity allowing
8 the Navajo Nation to be sued in Federal District Court regarding compliance with
9 the National Environmental Policy Act (or "NEPA") in carrying out United States
10 Housing and Urban Development (or "HUD") grants and further authorizing the
11 Navajo Nation President to sign Form 7015.15 as the certified tribal official for
12 HUD-funded projects through Fiscal Year 2004.

13 B. There have been five similar resolutions of the Navajo Nation Council related to
14 HUD grant funding granting the continued extension of a limited waiver of
15 sovereign immunity and authorizing the Navajo Nation President to sign Form
16 7015.15. *See* CAP-21-05; CAP-15-10; CJA-03-14; CO-57-17; and CJY-39-22.

17 C. Pursuant to CJY-39-22, the current limited waiver of sovereign immunity expires
18 on September 30, 2025.

19 D. The Board of Commissioners of the Navajo Housing Authority approved
20 Resolution NHA-5258-2024, attached as **Exhibit 1**, supporting an extension of the
21 limited waiver of sovereign immunity through September 30, 2029 and the
22 authorization of the Navajo Nation President to sign Form 7015.

23 24 **SECTION THREE. APPROVAL & AUTHORIZATION**

25 The Navajo Nation hereby approves and authorizes the extension of a limited waiver
26 of sovereign immunity through September 30, 2029 to allow the Navajo Nation to be
27 sued in Federal District Court regarding compliance with the National Environmental
28 Policy Act in carrying out Housing and Urban Development grants and authorizes the
29 Navajo Nation President to sign Form 7015.15.
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