THE NAVAJO NATION LEGISLATIVE BRANCH INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: <u>0193-25</u> SPONSOR: <u>Shaandiin Parrish</u>

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Budget and Finance and Naabik'íyáti'
Committees, and the Navajo Nation Council; Approving a Budget Revision Request
for the Office of Legislative Counsel to Fund the Appointment of a Special
Prosecutor; Waiving the Budget Instruction Manual Prohibition on Budget
Revisions from Personnel Accounts to Non-Personnel Accounts; Waiving CJY-6623, Sections 3(A) and 3(B)(I) and (2)

Date posted: <u>August 20, 2025 at 6:00 PM</u>

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Office of Legislative Services
P.O. Box 3390
Window Rock, AZ 86515
(928) 871-7586

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0/93-25

DATE: August 19, 2025

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO THE BUDGET AND FINANCE AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES, AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; APPROVING A BUDGET REVISION REQUEST FOR THE OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL TO FUND THE APPOINTMENT OF A SPECIAL PROSECUTOR; WAIVING THE BUDGET INSTRUCTION MANUAL PROHIBITION ON BUDGET REVISIONS FROM PERSONNEL ACCOUNTS TO NON-PERSONNEL ACCOUNTS; WAIVING CJY-66-23, SECTIONS 3(A) AND 3(B)(1) AND (2)

PURPOSE: The purpose of this proposed resolution is to approve a Budget Revision Request for the Office of Legislative Counsel to fund the appointment of a Special Prosecutor and waiving the budget instruction manual prohibition on budget revisions from personnel accounts to non-personnel accounts.

FINAL AUTHORITY: Navajo Nation Council

VOTE REQUIRED: 2/3 majority vote

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.

	HOLD PERIOD: Multiper Budget & Finance C	ommittee
Posting End	String Time/Date:	Thence
Eligible for	Washk Ivan C	
1	PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION Navajo Natio	Thence
2	25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – Third Year, 2025	
3	Introduced by:	
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6	(Prime Sponsor)	
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8	Tracking No	
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10	AN ACTION	
· 11	RELATING TO THE BUDGET AND FINANCE AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI'	
12	COMMITTEES, AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; APPROVING	
13	A BUDGET REVISION REQUEST FOR THE OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE	
14	COUNSEL TO FUND THE APPOINTMENT OF A SPECIAL PROSECUTOR;	
15	WAIVING THE BUDGET INSTRUCTION MANUAL PROHIBITION ON BUDGET	
· 16	REVISIONS FROM PERSONNEL ACCOUNTS TO NON-PERSONNEL	
17	ACCOUNTS; WAIVING CJY-66-23, SECTIONS 3(A) AND 3(B)(1) AND (2)	
18		
19	BE IT ENACTED:	
20		
- 21	SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY	
22	A. The Budget and Finance Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation	
23	Council that is authorized to review and make recommendations on the management of	
24	funds. 2 N.N.C. §300(A) and (B)(2).	
25	B. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council that	
. 26	reviews all proposed resolutions requiring final action by the Council. 2 N.N.C.	
27	§164(A)(9).	
28	C. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C.	
29	§102(A).	
30	D. Navajo Nation Council Resolution CJY-66-23 Section 3(A) and 3(B)(1) and (2) and the	

Fiscal Year Budget Instruction Manual prohibit budget revisions from personnel accounts to non-personnel accounts.

E. Waiver of any provision in CJY-66-23 requires a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the full membership of the Navajo Nation Council.

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- A. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests a budget revision in the amount of \$665,430.00, in accordance with the attached budget revision request, attached as **Exhibit A**.
- B. Over the past six months or more, the Ethics and Rules Office ("ERO") investigated alleged unethical and illegal conduct tied to the Executive Branch's contracts with Indigenous Design Studio + Architects ("IDSA"), the reported subcontract with ZenniHome and Native Community Capital. In the ERO investigation, Navajo Nation elected and appointed officials, and regular status employees, are identified as having participated in that alleged unethical and illegal conduct. In accordance with 2 N.N.C. §§ 3777, 3787 and 3789, ERO submitted a request for a special prosecutor to the Chief Legislative Counsel.
- C. The Chief Legislative Counsel has the authority to submit an application to a Special Division of the Navajo Nation Courts requesting the appointment of a Special Prosecutor in accordance with the requirements detailed in those provisions. 2 N.N.C. § 2021, et seq.
- D. On August 8, 2025, through court order, a Special Prosecutor was appointed by the Special Division. The Chief Legislative Counsel was also ordered to negotiate and tender a contract for work for the Special Prosecutor to be submitted within 30 days to the Special Division for approval.
- E. Due to line-item vetoes by Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren in the FY'25 Comprehensive Budget, the Office of Legislative Counsel ("OLC") does not have sufficient funds in the 6660-Attorneys contractual line item of its budget. OLC, however, has available funds, in the amount of \$665,430 in its FY'25 budget in its personnel line items; 2110-Regular, 2310-Temporary, 2510-Overtime, and 2900-Fringe Benefits.
- F. To fund the appointed Special Prosecutor, OLC requests approval of a budget revision

1	that would move funds from its personnel account to a non-personnel account.
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3	SECTION THREE. APPROVAL
4	The Navajo Nation Council hereby approves the Office of Legislative Counsel's Budget
5	Revision Request as shown in the attached Exhibit A.
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7	SECTION FOUR. WAIVERS OF NAVAJO NATION LAW
8	A. The Navajo Nation waives Sections 6(D) and 12(D)(12)(a) of the BIM that restrict budget
9	revisions from personnel accounts to non-personnel accounts.
10	B. The Navajo Nation waives Sections 3(A) and 3(B)(1) and (2) of Council Resolution CJY-
11	66-23.
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13	SECTION FIVE. EFFECTIVE DATE
14	This Action shall become effective in accordance with 2 N.N.C. §221(C).
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16	SECTION SIX. SAVING CLAUSE
17	If any portion of this Action 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 Action shall be the law of the Navajo Nation.
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