



25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Resources and Development Committee approves 50-Year land lease to strengthen Chinle Unified School District



Council Delegate Shawna Ann Claw (center) is joined by legislation agents (left to right): CUSD Superintendent Quincy Natay, Chinle Chapter President Dr. Paul Guy Jr., and Executive Staff Representative Vikki Shirley.

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – On Monday, the Navajo Nation Council's Resources and Development Committee (RDC) approved Legislation No. 0183-25, authorizing a 50-year lease of 18.73 acres within the Chinle Chapter to the Chinle Unified School District (CUSD) for school-related use.

Council Delegate Shawna Ann Claw, who sponsored the legislation, said the approval represents a significant step forward for the Chinle community and long-term educational development.

"We are deeply grateful to the Resources and Development Committee for approving this legislation," said Delegate Claw. "Education is the cornerstone of our children's future, and this lease allows CUSD to expand and improve its facilities to better serve students and educators. With continued support from families, community members, and dedicated staff, Chinle Unified School District #24 remains a strong and resilient institution for learning."

Legislation No. 0183-25 authorizes the use of the land for the construction, maintenance, and operation of educational facilities, including housing for teachers, in accordance with the

Navajo Nation's General Leasing Regulations.

The Navajo Nation Minerals Department has assessed the lease value at over \$1 million; however, the lease rental is waived given its designation for educational purposes.

Delegate Claw extended her appreciation to the Navajo Nation Department of Justice, CUSD Superintendent Quincy Natay, Chinle Chapter President Dr. Paul Guy, Jr., and Mrs. Vikki Shirley for serving as agents for the legislation. She also acknowledged the contributions of CUSD Governing Board Members Roselyn A. Yazzie, Anderson Jones, and Myron Tsosie.

The RDC approved Legislation No. 0183-25 with a vote of three in favor and none opposed, serving as the final authority on the matter.

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