

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: 0011-26

SPONSOR: Crystalyne Curley

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Budget and Finance and Naabik'iyáti' Committee, and the Navajo Nation Council; Approving a Budget Revision Request for the Office of Legislative Counsel to Fund Operating Expenses; Waiving the Budget Instructions 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)

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0011-26

DATE: January 15, 2026

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 OPERATING EXPENSES; 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: This resolution, if approved, would fund the operating expenses for the Office of Legislative Counsel for Fiscal Year 2026.

FINAL AUTHORITY: Navajo Nation Council

VOTE REQUIREMENT: 2/3 Vote of the Navajo Nation Council

This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committee. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each Council Delegate to review the proposed resolution in detail.

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: 01-20-26
Website Posting Time/Date: _____
Posting End Date: 01-20-26
Eligible for Action: 01-21-26

Budget & Finance Committee
Thence
Naabik'iyáti' Committee
Thence

1 PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION
2 25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – Fourth Year, 2026

Navajo Nation Council

3 Introduced by:

4 
5

6 (Prime Sponsor)

7 Tracking No. 0011-26

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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 OPERATING EXPENSES; WAIVING THE BUDGET
15 INSTRUCTION MANUAL PROHIBITION ON BUDGET REVISIONS FROM
16 PERSONNEL ACCOUNTS TO NON-PERSONNEL ACCOUNTS; WAIVING CJY-
17 66-23, SECTIONS 3(A) AND 3(B)(1) AND (2)

18
19 BE IT ENACTED:

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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'iyáti' 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 2026 Budget Instructions Manual prohibits 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 (“OLC”) requests approval of a budget revision in the amount of \$285,112.57, as reflected in the attached budget revision request, attached as **Exhibit A**, to fund essential operating expenses for Fiscal Year 2026.
- B. Due to line-item vetoes exercised by Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren in the FY 2026 Comprehensive Budget, all non-personnel operating expense line items for the OLC were eliminated. As a result, the OLC has no appropriated funding for non-personnel operating expenses necessary to carry out its statutory duties and responsibilities.
- C. The elimination of non-personnel operating funds has severely impaired the OLC’s ability to maintain ample funding necessary to comply with mandatory State of Arizona attorney licensing requirements, including annual bar dues, continuing legal education, and related professional obligations, which are required for OLC attorneys to remain in good standing with the State Bar of Arizona and lawfully perform legal services on behalf of the Navajo Nation.
- D. Following the line-item vetoes to the FY 2026 Comprehensive Budget, the OLC submitted a request for funding from the Unreserved, Undesignated Fund Balance (“UUFB”) to restore essential operating expenses for FY 2026; however, that request was also line-item vetoed by Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren, leaving the OLC without any approved source of non-personnel operating funds.
- E. In order to ensure the continued operation of the OLC and to allow it to fulfill its responsibilities as required under Navajo Nation law, approval of the requested budget revision is necessary and in the best interest of the Navajo Nation.
- F. To restore essential operating expenses for FY 2026, the OLC requests approval of a budget revision that would move funds from its personnel account to a non-personnel

1 account.

2 **SECTION THREE. APPROVAL**

3 The Navajo Nation Council hereby approves the Office of Legislative Counsel's Budget
4 Revision Request as shown in the attached **Exhibit A**.

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6 **SECTION FOUR. WAIVERS OF NAVAJO NATION LAW**

7 A. The Navajo Nation waives Sections 6(D) and 12(D)(12)(a) of the BIM that restrict budget
8 revisions from personnel accounts to non-personnel accounts.

9 B. The Navajo Nation waives Sections 3(A) and 3(B)(1) and (2) of Council Resolution CJY-
10 66-23.

11

12 **SECTION FIVE. EFFECTIVE DATE**

13 This Action shall become effective in accordance with 2 N.N.C. §221(C).

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15 **SECTION SIX. SAVING CLAUSE**

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

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