

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: 0018-26

SPONSOR: Crystalyne Curley

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Law and Order, Budget and Finance, and Naabik'iváti' Committees, and the Navajo Nation Council; Approving the Arizona Mutual Aid Compact Between the Navajo Nation, Division of Public Safety and the State of Arizona, Department of Emergency and Military Affairs; Approving a Limited Waiver of the Sovereign Immunity of the Navajo Nation for the Mutual Aid Compact

Date posted: January 16, 2026 at 6:20PM

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET
Tracking No. 0018-26

DATE: January 16, 2026

TITLE OF RESOLUTION AN ACTION RELATING TO THE LAW AND ORDER, BUDGET AND FINANCE, AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES, AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; APPROVING THE ARIZONA MUTUAL AID COMPACT BETWEEN THE NAVAJO NATION, DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE STATE OF ARIZONA, DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS; APPROVING A LIMITED WAIVER OF THE SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY OF THE NAVAJO NATION FOR THE MUTUAL AID COMPACT

PURPOSE: The purpose of this proposed resolution is to approve the Mutual Aid Compact between the Navajo Nation, Division of Public Safety and the State of Arizona, Department of Emergency and Military Affairs; and to approve a limited waiver of the sovereign immunity of the Navajo Nation for the Mutual Aid Compact.

FINAL AUTHORITY: Navajo Nation Council

VOTE REQUIRED: Two-Third (2/3) 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.

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: 01-21-26
Website Posting Time/Date:
Posting End Date: 01-21-26
Eligible for Action: 01-22-26

Law & Order Committee
Thence

Budget & Finance Committee
Thence

1 PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION **Naabik'iyáti' Committee**
2 **25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – Fourth Year, 2026** Thence

3 Introduced by:
4
5
6 _____
7 (Prime Sponsor)
8 _____
9

10 Tracking No. 0018-26 

AN ACTION

11 **RELATING TO THE LAW AND ORDER, BUDGET AND FINANCE, AND**
12 **NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES, AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL;**
13 **APPROVING THE ARIZONA MUTUAL AID COMPACT BETWEEN THE NAVAJO**
14 **NATION, DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE STATE OF ARIZONA,**
15 **DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS; APPROVING A**
16 **LIMITED WAIVER OF THE SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY OF THE NAVAJO NATION**
17 **FOR THE MUTUAL AID COMPACT**

18
19 BE IT ENACTED:

20 21 SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

22 A. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 102(A).
23 B. Intergovernmental Agreements must be reviewed and approved through resolution by the
24 appropriate standing committee(s) and the Navajo Nation Council, except as otherwise
25 provided herein. 2 N.N.C. § 164(A).
26 C. The Navajo Nation established the Law and Order Committee as a standing committee of
27 the Navajo Nation Council empowered with authority to provide oversight over law
28 enforcement activities and with the enumerated power to support effective cooperation and
29 coordination between Navajo Nation law enforcement agencies and that of various states and
30 federal government law enforcement agencies. 2 N.N.C. § 600(A) and (C)(7).

1 D. The Law and Order Committee is delegated the enumerated power to grant approval for
2 agreements negotiated by justice systems entities, administrative legal tribunals and public
3 safety programs with other federal, state, international, tribal, regional, and local
4 governmental agencies, subject to Naabik'iyáti' Committee approval when required by law.
5 2 N.N.C. § 601 (B)(1)(a).

6 E. The Navajo Nation established the Budget and Finance Committee as a standing committee
7 of the Navajo Nation Council empowered with oversight authority over budget, finances,
8 insurance, and other matters. 2 N.N.C. § 300(C). The Budget and Finance Committee is
9 delegated the enumerated power to authorize, review, approve and accept agreements,
10 including contracts and grants, between the Navajo Nation and any federal, state, or regional
11 authority upon the recommendation of the standing committee which has oversight of the
12 division, department or program which has applied for the agreement. 2 N.N.C. § 301
13 (B)(15).

14 F. The Navajo Nation established the Naabik'iyáti' Committee as a standing committee of the
15 Navajo Nation Council, empowered to coordinate all federal, county and state programs with
16 other standing committees and branches of the Navajo Nation government to provide the
17 most efficient delivery of services to the Navajo Nation and to review and continually
18 monitor the programs and activities of federal and state departments and to development of
19 such programs designed to serve the Navajo People and the Navajo Nation through
20 intergovernmental relationships between the Navajo Nation and such departments. 2 N.N.C.
21 § 701(A)(4) and (8).

22 G. The Navajo Nation Code provides, "[c]ontracts shall not waive the sovereign immunity
23 of the Navajo Nation or its entities unless approved by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the full
24 membership of the Navajo Nation Council." 2 N.N.C. § 223(C).

25

26 SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

27 A. The "Arizona Mutual Aid Compact" is an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Navajo
28 Nation, Division of Public Safety and the State of Arizona, Department of Emergency and
29 Military Affairs, attached hereto as **Exhibit A**

30 B. The intent and purpose of the Agreement is to provide voluntary mutual aid in the event of

disasters or emergencies within the jurisdiction of each government, attached hereto as **Exhibit A.**

- C. The Agreement has been reviewed by the Navajo Nation Department of Justice and the Department determined that the Arizona Mutual Aid Compact requires the Navajo Nation Council to approved a limited waiver of the sovereign immunity of the Navajo Nation, attached hereto as **Exhibit B**.
- D. The Navajo Nation finds it to be in the best interest of the Navajo People and the health, safety and welfare of its citizens to enter into the Mutual Aid Compact between the Navajo Nation, Division of Public Safety and the State of Arizona, Department of Emergency and Military Affairs.

SECTION THREE. APPROVALS

- A. The Navajo Nation hereby approves the Mutual Aid Compact between the Navajo Nation, Division of Public Safety and the State of Arizona, Department of Emergency and Military Affairs, attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.
- B. The Navajo Nation hereby authorizes the President of the Navajo Nation, Division Director of the Division of Public Safety, Chief of Police of the Navajo Police Department, and the Navajo Nation Attorney General to execute and effectuate Mutual Aid Compact between the Navajo Nation, Division of Public Safety and the State of Arizona, Department of Emergency and Military Affairs, attached herein as **Exhibit A**.

SECTION FOUR. APPROVAL OF LIMITED WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY

The Navajo Nation Council hereby approves a limited waiver of the sovereign immunity of the Navajo Nation for the Mutual Aid Compact between the Navajo Nation, Division of Public Safety and the State of Arizona, Department of Emergency and Military Affairs,