

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: 0056-26

SPONSOR: Arbin Mitchell

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Law and Order Committee; Approving Acceptance of Reimbursement Funds in the Total Amount of \$45,454.67 Related to the BNSF Train Derailment Response by Three Navajo Nation Programs; and Approving the Distribution of \$12,752.46 to the Department of Emergency Management Business Unit 116019,\$11,783.78 to the Police Department Business Unit 116008 and \$20,918.43 to the Navajo Fire and Rescue Services Business Unit 116012

Date posted: March 20, 2026 at 2:44 PM

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0056-26

DATE: March 19, 2026

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO THE LAW AND ORDER COMMITTEE; APPROVING ACCEPTANCE OF REIMBURSEMENT FUNDS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$45,454.67 RELATED TO THE BNSF TRAIN DERAILMENT RESPONSE BY THREE NAVAJO NATION PROGRAMS; AND APPROVING THE DISTRIBUTION OF \$12,752.46 TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BUSINESS UNIT 116019, \$11,783.78 TO THE NAVAJO POLICE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS UNIT 116008, AND \$20,918.43 TO THE NAVAJO FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES BUSINESS UNIT 116012

PURPOSE: This resolution, if approved, would deposit reimbursement funds for the Department of Emergency Management, Navajo Police Department, and the Navajo Fire and Rescue Services.

FINAL AUTHORITY: Law and Order Committee

VOTE REQUIRED: 2/3 vote of the full membership

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: _____

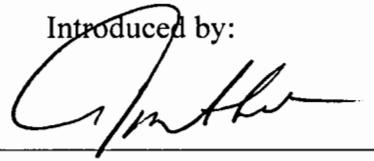
Posting End Date: 03-25-26

Eligible for Action: 03-26-26

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PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – FOURTH YEAR, 2026

Introduced by:



(Prime Sponsor)

Tracking No. 0056-26

AN ACTION
RELATING TO THE LAW AND ORDER COMMITTEE; APPROVING
ACCEPTANCE OF REIMBURSEMENT FUNDS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF
\$45,454.67 RELATED TO THE BNSF TRAIN DERAILMENT RESPONSE BY
THREE NAVAJO NATION PROGRAMS; AND APPROVING THE
DISTRIBUTION OF \$12,752.46 TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT BUSINESS UNIT 116019, \$11,783.78 TO THE NAVAJO
POLICE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS UNIT 116008, AND \$20,918.43 TO THE
NAVAJO FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES BUSINESS UNIT 116012

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Law and Order Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. § 600(A).
- B. The Law and Order Committee serves as the oversight committee for the Division of Public Safety. 2 N.N.C. § 601(C)(1).
- C. A standing committee may reallocate funds appropriated by the Navajo Nation Council to a division or program over which the committee has oversight. 2 N.N.C. § 185(A).

- 1 D. A budget reallocation is the transfer or reallocation of funds between business units
2 which requires oversight approval. Navajo Nation Budget Instructions Manual Fiscal
3 Year 2026, Section 12(C)(2).
- 4 E. A reimbursement requires oversight approval before a budget modification can be
5 processed, because this situation is an approval of additional funds that the Navajo
6 Nation receives. Navajo Nation Budget Instructions Manual Fiscal Year 2026,
7 Section 12(C)(4).
- 8 F. A reallocation of funds must be approved “by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the full
9 membership of the committee, board or commission.” 2 N.N.C. § 185(A).

10
11 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

- 12 A. On April 26, 2024, a BNSF Railway train derailment occurred near Lupton, Arizona,
13 resulting in an emergency incident requiring immediate response and coordination.
- 14 B. The Department of Emergency Management, Navajo Police Department, and Navajo
15 Fire and Rescue Services provided emergency management support and coordination
16 in response to the BNSF train derailment.
- 17 C. The response efforts included costs associated with food, equipment use, and
18 personnel services incurred by the responding Navajo Nation departments and
19 programs.
- 20 D. The Navajo Nation has received two reimbursement checks in total amount of
21 \$45,454.67 for assistance provided during the BNSF train derailment.
- 22 E. The Department of Emergency Management is requesting authorization to deposit
23 \$12,752.46 into Business Unit 116019. Budget Forms are attached as **EXHIBIT A**.
- 24 F. The Navajo Police Department is requesting authorization to deposit \$11,783.78 into
25 Business Unit 116008. Budget Forms are attached as **EXHIBIT B**.
- 26 G. The Navajo Nation Fire and Rescue Services is requesting authorization to deposit
27 \$20,918.43 into Business Unit 116012. Budget Forms are attached as **EXHIBIT C**.
- 28 H. The Office of Management and Budget, Office of the Controller, and Department of
29 Justice have reviewed the proposed refund allocation as part of an Executive Official
30

1 Review, attached as **EXHIBIT D**, and determined the documents sufficient upon the
2 review of the appropriate oversight committee.

3
4 **SECTION THREE. APPROVAL OF REIMBURSEMENT AND DISTRIBUTION**

5 The Navajo Nation approves:

- 6 1. The acceptance of the reimbursement in the total amount of \$45,454.67 from
7 BNSF; and
- 8 2. The distribution of \$12,752.46 to the Department of Emergency
9 Management's Business Unit 116019, \$11,783.78 to the Navajo Police
10 Department's Business Unit 116008, and \$20,918.43 to Fire and Rescue
11 Services' Business Unit 116012, as set forth in the budget documents attached
12 as **EXHIBITS A, B, and C**.