

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: 0063-26

SPONSOR: Amber Kanazbah Crotty

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Naabik'iyáti' Committee and the Navajo Nation Council; Confirming the Appointment of James Benally to the Commission on Navajo Government Development for a Term of Four Years as the Northern Agency Commission Member

Date posted: March 26, 2026 at 5:34 PM

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0063-26

DATE: March 23, 2026

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI COMMITTEE AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF JAMES BENALLY TO THE COMMISSION ON NAVAJO GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS AS THE NORTHERN AGENCY COMMISSION MEMBER

PURPOSE: This resolution, if approved, would confirm the appointment of James Benally to the Commission on Navajo Government Development as the Northern Agency Commission Member.

FINAL AUTHORITY: Navajo Nation Council

VOTING REQUIREMENT: Simple Majority

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: 03-31-26
Eligible for Action: 04-01-26

Naabik'iyáti' Committee
Thence
Navajo Nation Council

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

3
4 Introduced by:

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6 _____
7 Primary Sponsor



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9 Tracking No. 0063-26

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11 AN ACTION
12 RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI COMMITTEE AND THE NAVAJO
13 NATION COUNCIL; CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF JAMES
14 BENALLY TO THE COMMISSION ON NAVAJO GOVERNMENT
15 DEVELOPMENT FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS AS THE NORTHERN
16 AGENCY COMMISSION MEMBER

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18 BE IT ENACTED:

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20 SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- 21 A. The Naabik'iyáti Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council
22 and has legislative oversight over the Commission on Navajo Government
23 Development and is empowered to recommend all resolutions to the Navajo Nation
24 Council on matters with the Committee's jurisdiction pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §§ 700(A),
25 701(A)(3), and 970.
26 B. The Navajo Nation Council confirms appointments to the Commission on Navajo
27 Government Development. 2 N.N.C. § 972(A).
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1 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

- 2 A. The Commission on Navajo Government Development is established within the
3 Legislative Branch as a special entity created by the Navajo Nation Council with
4 quasi-independent authority to accomplish the People’s project of instituting reforms
5 necessary to ensure accountability, responsibility, ethical, and an equally
6 representative government. 2 N.N.C. § 970.
- 7 B. The Commission shall consist of 12 Navajo members to be confirmed by and serve at
8 the pleasure of the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. § 972(A).
- 9 C. Five members shall be nominated from the five agencies of the Navajo Nation. Each
10 agency council shall nominate one member from recommendations to be submitted
11 by Chapters on each agency, said nominees shall be either Chapter officers, Local
12 Government/Governance Commissioners, Grazing Committee/Land Board members,
13 or School Board members. These members shall serve a term of four years from the
14 date of confirmation by the Navajo Nation Council, so long as they continue as
15 Chapter officers, Local Government/Governance Commissioners, Grazing
16 Committee/Land Board member, or School Board member. 2 N.N.C. § 972(A)(5).
- 17 D. Commission members shall be chosen from among individuals who have
18 demonstrated scholarship, a strong sense of civic interest, knowledge of Diné history
19 and cultural heritage, spiritual leadership, leadership in the Navajo government and
20 abilities likely to contribute to the fulfillment of the duties of the commission. 2 N.N.C.
21 § 972(D).
- 22 E. The Northern Agency Council nominates and recommends James Benally to serve on
23 the Commission on Navajo Government Development pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §
24 972(A)(5). Northern Agency Council Resolution NNAC-224-2025 is attached as
25 **Exhibit A.**
- 26 F. Mr. James Benally’s letter of interest and resumé are attached as **Exhibit B.**

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28 **SECTION THREE. CONFIRMATION OF JAMES BENALLY TO THE**
29 **COMMISSION ON NAVAJO GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT AS THE**
30 **CENTRAL AGENCY MEMBER**

1 The Navajo Nation Council hereby confirms James Benally to serve on the Commission on
2 Navajo Government Development as the Northern Agency Member for a term of four years
3 from the date of confirmation in accordance with 2 N.N.C. § 972(A)(5).
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