

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: 0088-26

SPONSOR: Carl R. Slater

TITLE: An Act Relating to Law and Order, Budget and Finance, and Naabik'íyáti' Committees and the Navajo Nation Council; Amending 2 N.N.C. §§ 285, 1010, 1011 and 12 N.N.C. § 820 (K) to Expedite Acceptance of Donations on Behalf of the Navajo Nation

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0088-26

DATE: April 15, 2026

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACT RELATING TO LAW AND ORDER, BUDGET AND FINANCE, AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; AMENDING 2 N.N.C. §§ 285, 1010, 1011 AND 12 N.N.C. § 820 (K) TO EXPEDITE ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS ON BEHALF OF THE NAVAJO NATION

PURPOSE: This legislation will amend 2 N.N.C. § 285, 1010 and 1011 and 12 N.N.C. § 820(K) to expedite acceptance of donations on behalf of the Navajo Nation.

FINAL AUTHORITY: Navajo Nation Council

VOTE REQUIRED: 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:

Website Posting Time/Date:

Posting End Date: 04-26-26

Eligible for Action: 04-27-26

Law & Order Committee
Thence
Budget & Finance Committee
Thence
Naabik'iyati' Committee
Thence
Navajo Nation Council

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

Introduced by



(Prime Sponsor)

Tracking No. 0088-26

AN ACT
RELATING TO LAW AND ORDER, BUDGET AND FINANCE, AND
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL;
AMENDING 2 N.N.C. §§ 285, 1010, 1011 AND 12 N.N.C. § 820 (K) TO EXPEDITE
ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS ON BEHALF OF THE NAVAJO NATION

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Law and Order Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council and among other delegated duties, "review[s] and make[s] recommendations to the Navajo Nation Council on proposed amendments to the Navajo Nation Code." 2 N.N.C. §§ 600(A) and 601(B)(14).
- B. The Budget and Finance Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council and has the authority to review and recommend to the Council the budgeting, appropriation, investment and management of all funds. 2 N.N.C. §§ 300(A) and 301 (B)(2).
- C. The Naabik'iyati' Committee is a standing committee of Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. § 700(A). Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 164(A)(9), the committee reviews proposed legislation

1 which requires final action by the Navajo Nation Council.

2 D. The Navajo Nation Council enacts laws and sets policy for the Navajo Nation. 2
3 N.N.C. § 102.

4 E. The Navajo Nation Council has the authority to direct where additional revenues are
5 deposited. Pursuant to 12 N.N.C. § 820(K), “[f]unds received in excess of the initial
6 or current revenue projection shall be deposited into the General Fund Unreserved,
7 Undesignated Fund balance unless otherwise designated by the Navajo Nation
8 Council.”

9 F. The President of the Navajo Nation shall, for and on behalf of the Navajo Nation,
10 accept or decline gifts of property, provided, that any such acceptance or refusal of
11 a gift of an estimated value in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) shall be with
12 the concurrence of the Naabik'iyáti' Committee [formerly Government Services
13 Committee]. All gifts to the Navajo Nation shall be and remain the property of the Navajo
14 Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 1010.

15 G. The President of the Navajo Nation, upon acceptance of any gifts of property, shall
16 cause a valuation and accounting of the property to be made. He/she shall further
17 cause the property to be preserved and distributed in such a manner that the Navajo
18 People will receive benefit thereby, or that income from sales will accrue to the
19 Navajo Nation. Distribution of gifts in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) value
20 shall be with concurrence of the Naabik'iyáti' Committee [formerly Government
21 Services Committee]. 2 N.N.C. § 1011.

22
23 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

24 A. In 2020, the Navajo Nation (the “Nation”) faced an unprecedented emergency with
25 the occurrence of the COVID-19 pandemic.

26 B. To expedite relief to the Navajo people and their communities during the pandemic
27 emergency, the Nation passed resolution CMA-08-20 that waived the requirements
28 of 2 N.N.C. § 1010 and minimized its donation acceptance procedures.

29 C. Resolution CMA-08-20, temporarily replaced 2 N.N.C. § 1010’s reference to the
30 Naabik'iyáti' Committee with the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council and

1 temporarily waived the 2 N.N.C. § 1010 requirement that the Naabik'iyáti'
2 Committee concur with the President's acceptance or refusal of a gift of an estimated
3 value in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

4 D. Such waiver and delegated authority to the Speaker caused monetary and non-
5 monetary donations to be accepted in a timelier manner and reduced the need for
6 legislation to be drafted.

7 E. Expediting the acceptance of donations to the Nation requires amendments to the
8 Navajo Nation Code Titles 2 and 12.

9 F. The Navajo Nation Council finds the need to expedite the acceptance of donations
10 process.

11
12 **SECTION THREE. AMENDING TITLE 2**

13 The Navajo Nation Council hereby amends the Navajo Nation Code, 2 N.N.C. §§ 285,
14 1010 and 1011 as follows:

15
16
17 **THE NAVAJO NATION CODE**
18 **TITLE 2 NAVAJO NATION GOVERNMENT**
19 **Chapter 3 Legislative Branch**
20 **Subchapter 7. Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council**

21 **§ 285. Powers and duties**

22 * * * *

23 8. Concur with or object to the President of the Navajo Nation's acceptance or
24 declination of gifts of property with an estimated value in excess of one thousand
25 dollars (\$1,000) pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §§ 1010 and 1011. At each Regular Session of
26 the Navajo Nation Council, the Speaker shall, in the Report from the Speaker of the
27 Navajo Nation Council, report the following:

28 a. each concurrence issued to the President of the Navajo Nation's acceptance or
29 declination of gifts of property with an estimated value in excess of one thousand
30 dollars (\$1,000);

- b. a description of the gift of property including an estimated value;
- c. the identity of the donor(s); and
- d. the business unit(s) to which the gifts of property were deposited or directed.

TITLE 2 NAVAJO NATION GOVERNMENT

Chapter 5 Executive Branch

Subchapter 1. Generally

Article 1. Office of the President and Vice-President

* * * *

§ 1010. Gifts of property

The President of the Navajo Nation shall, for and on behalf of the Navajo Nation, accept or decline gifts of property, provided, that any such acceptance or refusal of a gift of an estimated value in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) shall be with the concurrence of the ~~Government Services Committee~~ Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council. All gifts to the Navajo Nation shall be and remain the property of the Navajo Nation.

§ 1011. Valuation and accounting; distribution

The President of the Navajo Nation, upon acceptance of any gifts of property, shall cause a valuation and accounting of the property to be made. He/she shall further cause the property to be preserved and distributed in such a manner that the Navajo People will receive benefit thereby, or that income from sales will accrue to the Navajo Nation. Distribution of gifts in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) value shall be with concurrence of the ~~Government Services Committee~~ Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council.

SECTION FOUR. AMENDING 12 N.N.C. § 820 (K)

TITLE 12. FISCAL MATTERS
CHAPTER 7. APPROPRIATIONS

1 * * * *

2 **§ 820. Overall budget policies.**

3 * * * *

4 K. Receipt of Additional Revenues. Funds received in excess of the initial or current
5 revenue projection shall be deposited into the General Fund Unreserved, Undesignated
6 Fund balance unless otherwise designated by the Navajo Nation Council or those received
7 as gifts of property by the Navajo Nation pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 1010 and designated for
8 specific use(s) or purpose(s) by the donor(s).

9 * * * *

10
11 **SECTION FIVE. ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT**

12 The receipt of all gifts of property shall continue to be recorded with the Navajo Nation
13 Ethics and Rules Office, in accordance with 2 N.N.C. § 1012.

14
15 **SECTION SIX. EFFECTIVE DATE**

16 The Act enacted herein shall be effective upon its approval pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §221.

17
18 **SECTION SEVEN. CODIFICATION**

19 The provisions of this Act which amends or adopts new sections of the Navajo Nation Code
20 shall be codified by the Office of Legislative Counsel. The Office of Legislative Counsel
21 shall incorporate such amended provisions in the next codification of the Navajo Nation
22 Code.

23
24 **SECTION EIGHT. SAVING CLAUSE**

25 Should any provision of this Act be determined invalid by the Navajo Nation Supreme
26 Court, or the District Courts of the Navajo Nation, without appeal to the Navajo Nation
27 Supreme Court, those portions of this Act, which are not determined invalid, shall remain
28 the law of the Navajo Nation.