

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0125-26_

SPONSOR: Eugenia Charles-Newton

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Law and Order Committee and Budget and Finance Committee; Approving and Recommending the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget for the Navajo Nation Office of the Public Defender and Related Matters

Date posted: June 23, 2026 at 7:49PM

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Office of Legislative Services
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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0125-26

DATE: June 22, 2026

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO LAW AND ORDER COMMITTEE AND BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE; APPROVING AND RECOMMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET FOR THE NAVAJO NATION OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER AND RELATED MATTERS

PURPOSE: This legislation, if approved, would recommend to the Navajo Nation Council, the Navajo Nation Office of the Public Defender's budget for the Fiscal Year 2027 Comprehensive Budget.

FINAL AUTHORITY: Budget and Finance Committee

VOTE REQUIRED: Simply 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: 5-5-26
Website Posting Time/Date: _____
Posting End Date: 06-28-26
Eligible for Action: 06-29-26

Law & Order Committee
Thence
Budget & Finance Committee

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

Introduced by:



(Prime Sponsor)

Tracking No. 0125-26

AN ACTION

**RELATING TO THE LAW AND ORDER COMMITTEE AND BUDGET AND
FINANCE COMMITTEE; APPROVING AND RECOMMENDING THE FISCAL
YEAR 2027 BUDGET FOR THE NAVAJO NATION OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC
DEFENDER AND RELATED MATTERS**

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Law and Order Committee is a Standing Committee of the Navajo Nation Council with oversight authority over the Navajo Nation Office of the Public Defender. 2 N.N.C. § 600(A); 2 N.N.C. § 601 (B)(15) and (C)(1).
- B. The Law and Order Committee shall review and make recommendations to the Budget and Finance Committee concerning the budget in accordance with the annual budget instructions. 12 N.N.C. § 840 (A).
- C. The Budget and Finance Committee is a Standing Committee of the Navajo Nation Council with the power to review and recommend to the Navajo Nation Council the budgeting, appropriation, investment and management of all funds. 2 N.N.C. §300(A) and 2 N.N.C. § 301(B)(2).
- D. The Budget and Finance Committee shall review and make recommendations concerning the budget according to the annual budget instructions to the Navajo Nation

Council. 12 N.N.C. § 840(A).

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- A. The Law and Order Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee held budget meetings and heard reports from Program staff and the Office of Management and Budget regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2027 ("FY2027") Budget for the Navajo Nation Office of the Public Defender. 12 N.N.C. § 840(A).
- B. The Law and Order Committee, Committee Report shall be attached as **Exhibit G** and the Budget and Finance Committee, Committee Report shall be attached as **Exhibit H**.
- C. Pursuant to the Navajo Nation Appropriations Act, Oversight Committee budget recommendations shall not exceed the base planning amounts. 12 N.N.C. § 840(A).

SECTION THREE. LAW AND ORDER COMMITTEE RECOMMENDING TO THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET FOR THE NAVAJO NATION OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER AND RELATED MATTERS

- A. The Law and Order Committee hereby recommends the FY2027 Budget for the Navajo Nation Office of the Public Defender, as detailed in the "Fund Type Budget Summary" attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, and in the Law and Order Committee's Report, to be attached as **Exhibit G**.
- B. The Law and Order Committee hereby approves certain revisions, if any, to the proposed FY2027 Budget amount for the Navajo Nation Office of the Public Defender, as shown in Columns D and E in the "General Fund Comparative Summary" attached hereto as **Exhibit B**, and in the Law and Order Committee's Report to be attached as **Exhibit G**.
- C. The Law and Order Committee recommends the changes, if any, to the General Fund Budget described in **Exhibit C**, and in the Law and Order Committee's Report to be attached as **Exhibit G**.
- D. The Law and Order Committee recommends certain Conditions of Appropriation and Legislative Concerns, if any, as listed in **Exhibit D**, and in the Law and Order

1 Committee's Report to be attached as **Exhibit G**.

2 E. The Law and Order Committee recommends that certain Unmet Needs, if any, for the
3 Navajo Nation Office of the Public Defender be included in the FY2027
4 Comprehensive Budget, as explained in **Exhibit E**. and in the Law and Order
5 Committee's Report to be attached as **Exhibit G**.

6 F. The Law and Order Committee has been presented with the External Funds Anticipated
7 in FY2027, if any, as listed in **Exhibit F**.

8 G. The Law and Order Committee recommends that the Budget and Finance Committee
9 approve the Navajo Nation Office of the Public Defender's FY2027 Budget and all
10 Committee recommendations as set forth in **Exhibits A-E and Exhibit G**, the Law and
11 Order Committee, Committee Report.

12 H. The Law and Order Committee hereby authorizes the Chair and the Vice-Chair to
13 negotiate with the Budget and Finance Committee on these recommendations.
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15 **SECTION FOUR. BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE APPROVING THE**
16 **FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET FOR THE NAVAJO NATION OFFICE OF THE**
17 **PUBLIC DEFENDER AND RELATED MATTERS**

18 The Budget and Finance Committee approves the Navajo Nation Office of the Public
19 Defender FY2027 Budget and all Committee recommendations as set forth in **Exhibits A-**
20 **E** and in the Budget and Finance Committee's, Committee Report, **Exhibit H**, to serve as
21 the Budget and Finance Committee's recommendations to the Navajo Nation Council for
22 including in the FY2027 Comprehensive Budget.
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24 **SECTION FIVE. DIRECTIVES**

25 A. The Office of Legislative Services shall attach **Exhibit G**, the Law and Order
26 Committee's Committee Report, that reflects all amendment(s) made to this Action
27 (Exhibits and Budget Binder documents) that are approved by the Law and Order
28 Committee and that serve as the Law and Order Committee's recommendations to the
29 Budget and Finance Committee.

30 B. The Office of Legislative Services shall attach **Exhibit H**, the Budget and Finance

1 Committee's Committee Report, that reflects all amendment(s) made to this Action
2 (Exhibits and Budget Binder documents) as approved by the Budget and Finance
3 Committee.

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5 **SECTION SIX. EFFECTIVE DATE**

6 This Action shall become effective as provided in 2 N.N.C. § 189(A) and (B).
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