

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0178-26_

SPONSOR: Vince R. James

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Resources and Development Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee; Amending Delegate Vince James' Revenue Replacement Reserve Funded Delegate Region Project Plan to add and Delete Cornfields Chapter Projects

Date posted: July 15, 2026 at 6:05PM

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0178-26

DATE: July 15, 2026

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AND THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE; AMENDING DELEGATE VINCE JAMES' REVENUE REPLACEMENT RESERVE FUNDED DELEGATE REGION PROJECT PLAN TO ADD AND DELETE CORNFIELDS CHAPTER PROJECTS

PURPOSE: This proposed resolution, if adopted, will amend Delegate Vince James Revenue Replacement Reserve funded Delegate Region Project Plan.

FINAL AUTHORITY: Budget and Finance Committee

VOTE REQUIREMENT: Majority

This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committee. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each Council Delegate to review the proposed resolution in detail.

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: 5-5-20
Website Posting Time/Date: _____
Posting End Date: 07-20-26
Eligible for Action: 07-21-26

Resources & Development Committee
Thence
Budget & Finance Committee

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

Introduced By:

Primary Sponsor

Tracking No. 0178-26

AN ACTION
RELATING TO THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AND
THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE; AMENDING DELEGATE VINCE
JAMES' REVENUE REPLACEMENT RESERVE FUNDED DELEGATE
REGION PROJECT PLAN TO ADD AND DELETE CORNFIELDS CHAPTER
PROJECTS

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

A. The Resources and Development Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with the authority and responsibility to promote, review, coordinate, and approve projects to be financed by funds designated for Capital Improvement. 2 N.N.C. § 500 (C)(5).

B. The Budget and Finance Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with the authority and responsibility to coordinate, oversee, and regulate the fiscal, financial, investment, contracting, and audit policies of the Navajo Nation; and to protect the interests of the Navajo People through the prudent management of financial reserves of the Navajo Nation and the use of funds available for expenditure by the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §§ 300 (C)(1) and (C)(4).

- 1 C. As set forth in CJA-05-26, Section Four (M), “[a]ny new projects added to Delegate
2 Region Project Plans that are funded through the Revenue Replacement Reserve
3 shall be approved by the Budget and Finance Committee when recommended by
4 the Resources and Development Committee, as long as such new projects comply
5 with the purposes set forth in CMY-28-24, Section Six (E).”
- 6 D. As set forth in CJA-05-26, Section Four (N), “[m]odifications to legislatively
7 approved Delegate Region Project Plans funded through the Revenue Replacement
8 Reserves shall be allowed subject to administrative approval when requested by the
9 Delegate and approved by the Office of the Controller and the Navajo Nation entity
10 with Administrative Oversight over the Delegate Region Project.”

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12 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

- 13 A. In 2021, the Navajo Nation received \$2,079,461,464 of Fiscal Recovery Funds
14 (“FRF”) allocated under the American Rescue Plan Act (“ARPA”). In July of 2021,
15 the Navajo Nation enacted Council Resolution CJY-41-21 (“CJY-41-21”), which
16 established the Navajo Nation Fiscal Recovery Fund (“NNFRF”).
- 17 B. In July of 2022, the Navajo Nation enacted Council Resolution CJN-29-22 (“CJN-
18 29-22”), which allocated \$1,070,298,867 from the NNFRF to Chapter and Regional
19 Projects; Public Safety Emergency Communication, E911, and Rural Addressing
20 Projects; Cyber Security; Public Health Projects; Economic Development Projects;
21 the Hardship Assistance Program; Water and Wastewater Projects; Home
22 Electricity Connection and Electric Capacity Projects; Housing Projects and
23 Housing Manufacturing Facilities; Bathroom Addition Projects; and Construction
24 Contingency Funding.
- 25 C. The Navajo Nation, through CJN-29-22, also approved an allocation of
26 \$211,256,148 from the NNFRF for the Chapter and Regional Projects Expenditure
27 Plan. These funds were divided equally among the 24 Delegate Regions in the
28 amount of \$8,802,340 per Delegate Region. Council delegates selected projects
29 within their Delegate Region to be included in a Delegate Region Projects Plan to
30 be legislatively approved.

- 1 D. The Navajo Nation was faced with federally imposed deadlines of December 31,
2 2024, for the obligation of FRF and December 31, 2026, for the expenditure of FRF,
3 failure to meet the deadlines would have required the Navajo Nation to return the
4 funds to the U.S. Treasury. The Navajo Nation enacted CMY-28-24 to responsibly
5 manage the federal funds in order to ensure the Navajo Nation could optimize the
6 use of the federal FRF to expand necessary governmental services and build vital
7 infrastructure for the Navajo People.
- 8 E. The Navajo Nation, through Section 3 of CMY-28-24, recaptured approximately
9 \$737,520,438 from the NNFRF previously allocated to projects and programs that
10 the Navajo leadership determined were unlikely to meet the federal deadlines. The
11 Navajo Nation reallocated \$737,158,551 of the recaptured FRF for wastewater
12 infrastructure, housing, administrative costs, and reimbursement to the Navajo
13 Nation of revenue expended in providing governmental services. CMY-28-24, §4.
- 14 F. The Navajo Nation, through CMY-28-24, established the Revenue Replacement
15 Reserve as a committed fund balance in the General Fund to house, protect, and
16 reserve certain FRF funding until a statutory trust fund was established to govern
17 the use of the trust fund for governmental services and long-term infrastructure
18 development, and the Navajo Nation transferred \$521,857,353 of unobligated and
19 unspent NNFRF funding to the Revenue Replacement Reserve. CMY-28-24, §5.
- 20 G. The \$521,857,353 of Revenue Replacement Reserve funds included approximately
21 \$166,758,663 of the \$211,256,148 for the Delegate Region Projects Expenditure
22 Plan under Section 3 of CJN-29-22. Approximately \$43,566,357 of the
23 \$211,256,148 remained funded through the NNFRF.
- 24 H. CMY-28-24 Sections Five (E), Six (A), Six (D), Six (E), and Six (F) refer to the
25 reallocation of NNFRF to the Revenue Replacement Reserve to fund Delegate
26 Region Project Plans. These sections together reflect Council's intent to appropriate
27 \$150,075,413 for previously legislatively approved Delegate Region Projects.
28 CMY-28-24 Section Six (C) when read in harmony with the sections above reflects
29 Council's intent that funds would also be included in the Revenue Replacement
30

1 Reserve to fund Delegate Region Project Plans that would be legislatively approved
2 in the future.

3 I. As set forth in CJA-05-26, Section Four (M), "[a]ny new projects added to Delegate
4 Region Project Plans that are funded through the Revenue Replacement Reserve
5 shall be approved by the Budget and Finance Committee when recommended by
6 the Resources and Development Committee, as long as such new projects comply
7 with the purposes set forth in CMY-28-24, Section Six (E)."

8 J. As set forth in CJA-05-26, Section Four (N), "[m]odifications to legislatively
9 approved Delegate Region Project Plans funded through the Revenue Replacement
10 Reserves shall be allowed subject to administrative approval when requested by the
11 Delegate and approved by the Office of the Controller and the Navajo Nation entity
12 with Administrative Oversight over the Delegate Region Project."

13 K. The Cornfields Chapter has requested, as set forth in **Exhibit A**, that a new project
14 titled "Home Improvement/Renovation" be added to Delegate Vince James'
15 Delegate Region Project Plan funded through the Revenue Replacement Reserve
16 ("RRR"); and that the current RRR funding for the Navajo Station Power Line
17 Extension (\$225,000) and PPE/Food Storage (\$150,000) be transferred to the new
18 Home/Improvement Renovation project. **Exhibit A.**

19 L. The Home Improvement/Renovation Project Expenditure Plan is set forth in
20 **Exhibit B.**

21 M. The proposed budget for the Home Improvement/Renovation Project in the amount
22 of \$375,000 (\$225,000 + \$150,000 = \$375,000) is set forth in **Exhibit C.**

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24 **SECTION THREE. APPROVING THE ADDITION OF CORNFIELDS**
25 **CHAPTER'S HOME IMPROVEMENT PROJECT TO DELEGATE VINCE**
26 **JAMES RRR FUNDED DELEGATE JAMES' DELEGATE REGION PROJECT**
27 **PLAN; APPROVING THE RELATED EXPENDITURE PLAN**

28 A. The Navajo Nation hereby approves the addition of Cornfields Chapter's Home
29 Improvement/Renovation project to Delegate Vince James' Delegate Region Project
30 Plan funded through the Revenue Replacement Reserve as set forth in the Home

1 Improvement/Renovation Project Expenditure Plan attached as **Exhibit B** and the
2 proposed budget for \$375,000 set forth in **Exhibit C**.

3 B. Although administrative approval would be sufficient under CJA-05-26, Section Four
4 (N), the Navajo Nation authorizes the transfer of funding from the RRR funded Navajo
5 Station Power Line Extension in the amount of \$225,000 and the PPE/Food Storage in
6 the amount of \$150,000 to the Home Improvement/Renovation project as requested by
7 the Cornfields Chapter in **Exhibit A**.

8 C. The Delegate Region Projects approved herein shall comply with all applicable
9 provisions of CJA-05-26 and CMY-28-24.

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11 **SECTION FOUR. AMENDMENTS**

12 Amendments to this legislation or to the Delegate Region Project Plan approved herein
13 shall only be adopted and approved as set forth in CJA-05-26, Section Four.
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