

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: 0203-26

SPONSOR: Danny Simpson

TITLE: An Action to an Emergency for the Navajo Nation Council; Adopting a Continuing Resolution for the Continuing Operations of the Navajo Nation Government Beginning October 1, 2026, and Ending December 31, 2026; Waiving 12 N.N.C. §840 (B)

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET
Tracking No. 0203-26

DATE: September 9, 2026

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO AN EMERGENCY FOR THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; ADOPTING A CONTINUING RESOLUTION FOR THE CONTINUING OPERATIONS OF THE NAVAJO NATION GOVERNMENT BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2026, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026; WAIVING 12 N.N.C. §840(B)

PURPOSE: This resolution, if approved, will adopt a continuing resolution for an operating budget for the Navajo Nation for the first quarter of FY 2027.

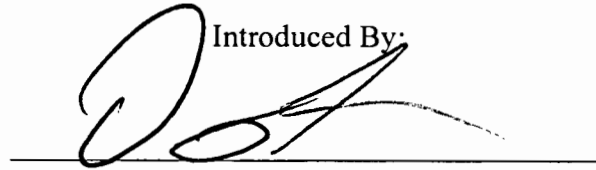
FINAL AUTHORITY: Navajo Nation Council

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.

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

Introduced By:



(Primary Sponsor)

Tracking No. 0203-26

AN ACTION
RELATING TO AN EMERGENCY FOR THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL;
ADOPTING A CONTINUING RESOLUTION FOR THE CONTINUING
OPERATIONS OF THE NAVAJO NATION GOVERNMENT BEGINNING
OCTOBER 1, 2026, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026; WAIVING 12 N.N.C.
§840(B)

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 102(A). As such, the Council may consider proposed action regarding an emergency matter. 2 N.N.C. § 164(A)(16).
- B. “[M]atters constituting an emergency shall be limited to the cessation of law enforcement services, and disaster relief services, fire protection services or other direct services required as an entitlement under Navajo Nation or Federal law, or which directly threaten the sovereignty of the Navajo Nation. Such an emergency matter must arise due to the pressing public need for such resolution(s) and must be a matter requiring final action by the Council.” 2 N.N.C. § 164(A)(16).

1 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

- 2 A. The Navajo Nation government must operate pursuant to a duly enacted
3 comprehensive budget resolution or a continuing budget resolution to maintain
4 continuity of services, programs, contracts, personnel, and grants to safeguard the
5 health, safety, and welfare of the Navajo people.
- 6 B. The FY2026 Comprehensive Budget, as signed in September 2025, combined with
7 a budget amendment and supplemental budget appropriations enacted during
8 FY2026, represents the full authorized funding amount upon which the Navajo
9 Nation is currently operating. A list of the FY2026 comprehensive budget and
10 supplemental appropriation resolutions are attached as **Exhibit A** and incorporated
11 herein by reference.
- 12 C. The purpose of this legislation is to authorize a continuing budget resolution for a
13 period of three (3) months that permits the Navajo Nation government to continue
14 operations at FY2026 funding levels. This includes the FY2026 Comprehensive
15 Budget enacted and signed by the President in September 2025 (recognizing all line-
16 item vetoes), a budget amendment (recognizing all line-item vetoes), and all
17 supplemental budget appropriations (recognizing all line-item vetoes) approved by
18 the Navajo Nation Council and signed by the President during FY2026. *See Exhibit*
19 **A.**
- 20 D. Due to the external audit of the combined financial statements of the Navajo Nation
21 being incomplete, the Navajo Nation Council will not be able to thoroughly debate,
22 amend, if necessary, finalize, and enact the FY2027 Comprehensive Budget by
23 September 10, 2026, as required by 12 N.N.C. §840 (B). Consequently, a temporary
24 continuing resolution is required to ensure uninterrupted government functions while
25 the FY2027 budget is finalized.
- 26 E. This matter constitutes an Emergency under 2 N.N.C. § 164 (A) (16) as the lack of
27 an operating budget will result in the cessation of direct services to the Navajo
28 populace.
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1 F. The approval of a Continuing Resolution will allow for careful consideration of a
2 FY2027 Comprehensive Budget, as well as a detailed examination of the needs of
3 the Navajo Nation.
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5 **SECTION THREE. APPROVAL OF CONTINUING RESOLUTION**

- 6 A. The Navajo Nation Council hereby resolves that all Navajo Nation government
7 divisions, departments, offices, programs and chapters, with the exception of those
8 special budget situations named in paragraph C of this section, shall receive one
9 fourth (1/4) of their Navajo Nation FY 2026 general fund, indirect cost fund,
10 proprietary fund, special revenue, and fiduciary fund allocations for operation of the
11 Navajo Nation Government beginning October 1, 2026, and ending no later than
12 December 31, 2026. The Continuing Budget Resolution amounts shall be based on
13 100% (one hundred percent) of the final Navajo Nation approved FY2026 budget
14 amounts as approved in the FY2026 comprehensive budget, a budget amendment
15 and all supplemental budget appropriation resolutions listed in **Exhibit A**.
16 B. In order for the continuing resolution budgets to be entered into the Nation's financial
17 management and information system, all Navajo Nation programs and chapters shall
18 submit continuing resolution budgets to the Office of Management and Budget at the
19 level of funding stated in Paragraph A above by September 20, 2026.
20 C. The Branch Chiefs, in conjunction with the Office of the Controller and the Office
21 of Management and Budget are authorized to administratively address special budget
22 situations and shall issue any necessary instructions for the proper implementation
23 of this Continuing Resolution, including all expenditures as required by statute,
24 contract or government policy, including but not limited to Risk Management,
25 scholarships, school clothing, personnel wages/salaries, employee life/health
26 insurance and retirement funds, match fund requirements, veterans funds, senior
27 funds, public safety funds, and higher education.
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1 **SECTION FOUR. DIRECTIVE TO THE SPEAKER OF THE NAVAJO NATION**

2 The Navajo Nation Council directs the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council to convene
3 a special session no later than thirty (30) days before the end of the Continuing Resolution
4 period for the exclusive purpose of consideration and adoption of the proposed Navajo
5 Nation Fiscal Year 2027 Comprehensive Budget.

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7 **SECTION FIVE. WAIVING 12 N.N.C. §840 (B)**

8 The Navajo Nation Council hereby waives 12 N.N.C. §840 (B) pertaining to the adoption
9 of a comprehensive twelve-month budget in order that this Continuing Budget Resolution
10 be adopted. This waiver shall cease to be in effect upon adoption of the Navajo Nation
11 Comprehensive Budget for Fiscal Year 2027.

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13 **SECTION SIX. EFFECTIVE DATE**

14 The action is effective upon its approval pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §221(B).
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