

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0212-26_

SPONSOR: Arbin Mitchell

TITLE: An Action Relating to Law and Order, Budget and Finance, and Naabik'iyáti' Committees; Approving and Authorizing a Contract Between the Navajo Nation and the United States Department of the Interior Under 25 U.S.C. § 5301 et seq. (P.L. 93-638, as Amended), for a Five (5) Year Term for the Period Beginning January 1, 2027 and Ending December 31, 2031 for the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch – Tribal Courts; Approving and Authorizing the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch – Tribal Courts Fiscal Year 2027 Annual Funding Agreement and Scope of Work

Date posted: September 24, 2026 at 4:00PM

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Office of Legislative Services
P.O. Box 3390
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(928) 871-7586

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 6212-26

DATE: September 23, 2026

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO LAW AND ORDER, BUDGET AND FINANCE, AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES; APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE NAVAJO NATION AND THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR UNDER 25 U.S.C. § 5301 ET SEQ. (P.L. 93-638, AS AMENDED), FOR A FIVE (5) YEAR TERM FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2027 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2031 FOR THE NAVAJO NATION JUDICIAL BRANCH-TRIBAL COURTS; APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE NAVAJO NATION JUDICIAL BRANCH-TRIBAL COURTS FISCAL YEAR 2027 ANNUAL FUNDING AGREEMENT AND SCOPE OF WORK

PURPOSE: This legislation, if approved, would approve and authorize a five-year contract between the Navajo Nation and the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, under P.L. 93-638, as amended, for the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch-Tribal Courts for January 1, 2027 through December 31, 2031, would approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Annual Funding Agreement and Scope of Work, and would authorize the Chief Justice to execute them.

FINAL AUTHORITY: Naabik'íyáti' Committee

VOTE REQUIRED: Simple Majority

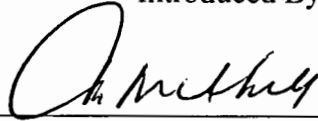
This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committees. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each Council Delegate to review each proposed resolution in detail.

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: 7-30
Website Posting Time/Date: _____
Posting End Date: 09-29-26
Eligible for Action: 09-30-26

Law & Order Committee
Thence
Budget & Finance Committee
Thence
Naabik'iyáti' Committee

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

Introduced By:



(Sponsor)

Tracking No. 0212-26

AN ACTION

RELATING TO LAW AND ORDER, BUDGET AND FINANCE, AND
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES; APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING A
CONTRACT BETWEEN THE NAVAJO NATION AND THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR UNDER 25 U.S.C. § 5301 *ET SEQ.* (P.L. 93 -
638, AS AMENDED), FOR A FIVE (5) YEAR TERM FOR THE PERIOD
BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2027 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2031 FOR THE
NAVAJO NATION JUDICIAL BRANCH - TRIBAL COURTS; APPROVING
AND AUTHORIZING THE NAVAJO NATION JUDICIAL BRANCH - TRIBAL
COURTS FISCAL YEAR 2027 ANNUAL FUNDING AGREEMENT AND SCOPE
OF WORK

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Law and Order Committee is established as a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council and serves as the oversight committee for the Judicial Branch of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §§ 600 and 601(C)(1).
- B. The Budget and Finance Committee is established as a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council and is authorized to approve and accept contracts from

1 federal authorities upon the recommendation of the standing committee having
2 oversight of the program requesting the contract. 2 N.N.C. §§ 300 and 301(B)(15).

- 3 C. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee is authorized to approve contracts between the Navajo
4 Nation and the United States Department of the Interior for implementation of the
5 Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, 25 U.S.C. § 5301 *et seq.*
6 (P.L. 93-638, as amended). 2 N.N.C. § 701(A)(12).

7 8 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

- 9 A. The Annual Funding Agreement between the Department of Interior and the Navajo
10 Nation is a self-determination contract under the Indian Self-Determination and
11 Education Assistance Act and as such is an intergovernmental agreement attached as
12 **Exhibit A.**
- 13 B. It is in the best interest of the Navajo Nation to enter into a contract with the United
14 States Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs for the contract term as set forth
15 in the documents attached as **Exhibit B.**
- 16 C. The Navajo Nation is a mature contractor under the Indian Self-Determination and
17 Education Assistance Act, 25 U.S.C. § 5304(h). The proposed contract provides for a
18 term beginning January 1, 2027 and ending December 31, 2031, and the proposed
19 Fiscal Year 2027 Annual Funding Agreement provides for the period beginning
20 January 1, 2027 and ending December 31, 2027 in the amount of \$25,019,144.00,
21 subject to adjustment for any across-the-board increases or decreases made by
22 Congress in the final Fiscal Year 2027 appropriations attached as **Exhibit B.**
- 23 D. The proposed contract, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. § 5301 *et seq.* (P.L. 93-638, as amended),
24 between the Navajo Nation and United States Department of Interior, has received a
25 Navajo Nation 164 review by requisite reviewers, and is determined to be legally
26 sufficient and eligible for signature attached as **Exhibit C.**

27 28 **SECTION THREE. APPROVALS**

- 29 A. The Navajo Nation hereby approves and authorizes a contract between the Navajo
30 Nation and the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs,

1 under 25 U.S.C. § 5301 *et seq.* (P.L. 93-638, as amended), for a five (5) year period
2 beginning January 1, 2027 and ending December 31, 2031 for Judicial Branch -
3 Tribal Courts as set forth in the documents attached as **Exhibit B**.

4 B. The Navajo Nation hereby approves and authorizes the Annual Funding Agreement
5 and Scope of Work for the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch - Tribal Courts for Fiscal
6 Year 2027, for the period beginning January 1, 2027 and ending December 31, 2027,
7 as set forth in the documents attached as **Exhibit B**.

8 C. The Navajo Nation hereby authorizes the Chief Justice of the Navajo Nation, or an
9 Interim Chief Justice serving in that office, to execute and effectuate the Contract,
10 Annual Funding Agreement, and Scope of Work, provided the terms and conditions
11 in such documents are substantially similar to those approved by this resolution.
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