

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0226-26_

SPONSOR: Dr. Andy Nez

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Health, Education, and Human Services and Naabik'iyáti' Committees; Approving a Tribal Resolution Supporting the Navajo Epidemiology Center's Participation in the Launching of the Tribal Implementation Center Program Diné Bikéyah Naalniih Naalkaah (Disease Tracking on the Navajo Land) Data Modernization Initiative

Date posted: October 06, 2026 at 7:02PM

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET
Tracking No. 0226-26

DATE: October 6, 2026

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES AND NAABIK'ÍTYÁTI' COMMITTEES; APPROVING A TRIBAL RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NAVAJO EPIDEMIOLOGY CENTER'S PARTICIPATION IN THE LAUNCHING OF THE TRIBAL IMPLEMENTATION CENTER PROGRAM DINÈ BIKÈYAH NAAŁNÍȨ NAAŁKAAH (DISEASE TRACKING ON NAVAJO LAND) DATA MODERNIZATION INITIATIVE

PURPOSE: This legislation, if approved, approves a tribal resolution to the Navajo Epidemiology Center to participation in the launching of the Tribal Implementation Center Dinè Bikèyah Naałnįh Naalkaah (Disease Tracking on Navajo Land) Data Modernization Initiative.

FINAL AUTHORITY: Naabik'íyáti' Committee

VOTE REQUIRED: Simple Majority

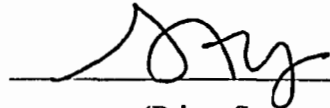
This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committees. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each Council Delegate to review each proposed resolution in detail.

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: 10/11/26
Website Posting Time/Date: _____
Posting End Date: 10/11/26
Eligible for Action: 10/12/26

Health Education & Human Services Committee
Thence
Naabik'iyáti' Committee

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

Introduced By:


(Prime Sponsor)

Tracking No. 0226-26

AN ACTION

RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES AND
NAABIK'ITYÁTI' COMMITTEES; APPROVING A TRIBAL RESOLUTION
SUPPORTING THE NAVAJO EPIDEMIOLOGY CENTER'S PARTICIPATION IN
THE LAUNCHING OF THE TRIBAL IMPLEMENTATION CENTER PROGRAM
DINÈ BIKÈYAH NAAŁNÍIH NAALKAAH (DISEASE TRACKING ON NAVAJO
LAND) DATA MODERNIZATION INITIATIVE

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council and is empowered to represent the Navajo Nation at local, state and federal levels, in coordination with the President of the Navajo Nation and the Naabik'iyáti' Committee, on proposed legislation, funding and other actions affecting health, environmental health, social services, education, veteran's services, employment, training and labor. 2 N.N.C. §§ 400(A), 401(B)(7).
- B. The Naabik'iyáti' Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council and is empowered to coordinate all federal, county, and state programs with other standing committees and branches of the Navajo Nation government to provide the most efficient delivery of services to the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §§ 700(A), 701(A)(4).

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- A. The Navajo Department of Health (NDOH) is established as a Department under the Executive Branch of the Navajo Nation Government, and is comprised of programs offices and administrative components needed to fulfill the Department's Plan of Operation. 2 N.N.C. §§ 1601 and 1606.
- B. The Navajo Epidemiology Center (NEC) was established in 2005, under the Navajo Department of Health, serves as a Public Health Authority under the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCIA) for purposes of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). NEC manages the Navajo Nation's public health information systems, investigates diseases and injuries of concern, provides data and reports to help health programs effectively manage programs, respond to public health emergencies, and coordinate these activities with other public health authorities. NEC's primary objectives are data collection, analysis and interpretation, health surveillance; disease control and prevention, and data sharing.
- C. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), National Center for STLT Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce, and Data Systems in partnership with Tribal Implementation Center (Tribal IC) Program announced the Notice of Funding Opportunity, Announcement Number: CDC-RFA-OE22-2203, attached as **Exhibit A**.
- D. Tribal IC Program in partnership with CDC supports the implementation of Tribally led public health data modernization projects focused on strengthening interoperability across public health data systems and enhancing Tribal capacity to access, manage, and use data to support public health decision-making.
- E. The Tribal IC Program has a budget amount of \$1,500,000.00 for the period beginning September 30, 2026, through September 30, 2027, and would potentially accept additional subsequent initiative funding as well as updating to the initiative project timelines.
- F. NEC is applying to the Tribal IC Program to launch the "Dinè Bikèyah Naalnìjìh Naalkaah (Disease Tracking on Navajo Land) Data Modernization Initiative." This project will accelerate access to real-time public health data to strengthen disease

1 surveillance, situational awareness, predictive modeling, and emergency response
2 capabilities across the Navajo Nation. The application requires the submission of an
3 approved Tribal Resolution in support of the data modernization initiative.
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5 **SECTION THREE. APPROVING AND SUPPORTING THE NAVAJO**
6 **EPIDEMIOLOGY CENTER'S APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE**
7 **TRIBAL IMPLEMENTATION CENTER PROGRAM DINÈ BIKÈYAH**
8 **NAAŁNĪĪH NAALKAAH (DISEASE TRACKING ON NAVAJO LAND) DATA**
9 **MODERNIZATION INITIATIVE**

10 The Navajo Nation hereby approves and supports the Navajo Epidemiology Center's
11 application to participate in the Tribal Implementation Center Program to improve timely
12 access to public health data to strengthen disease surveillance, situational awareness,
13 modeling, forecasting, and emergency response entitled, Dinè Bikèyah Naałnĭĭh Naalkaah
14 (disease tracking on Navajo land) Data Modernization Initiative.
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