

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0227-26_

SPONSOR: Dr. Andy Nez

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Health, Education and Human Services Committee; Establishing an Investigatory Hearing to Determine Compliance with Navajo Nation Laws, Regulations Rules, and Policies Concerning the Navajo Nation's Veterans Funding and Related Matters; Adopting Investigatory Hearing Rules

Date posted: October 06, 2026 at 7:07PM

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0227-26

DATE: October 6, 2026

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE; ESTABLISHING AN INVESTIGATORY HEARING TO DETERMINE COMPLIANCE WITH NAVAJO NATION LAWS, REGULATIONS, RULES, AND POLICIES CONCERNING THE NAVAJO NATION'S VETERANS FUNDING AND RELATED MATTERS; ADOPTING INVESTIGATORY HEARING RULES

PURPOSE: This legislation, if approved, would establish a Health, Education and Human Services investigatory hearing to address the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration's compliance concerning veterans funding and related matters as well as establishing rules for that hearing.

FINAL AUTHORITY: Health, Education and Human Services Committee

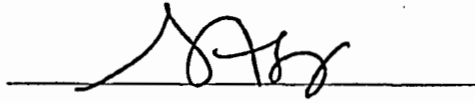
VOTE REQUIRED: Simple Majority

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:
Website Posting Time/Date:
Posting End Date: 10/11/26
Eligible for Action: 10/12/26

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

Introduced By:


(Prime Sponsor)

Tracking No. 0227-26

AN ACTION
RELATING TO THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES
COMMITTEE; ESTABLISHING AN INVESTIGATORY HEARING TO
DETERMINE COMPLIANCE WITH NAVAJO NATION LAWS, REGULATIONS,
RULES, AND POLICIES CONCERNING THE NAVAJO NATION'S VETERANS
FUNDING AND RELATED MATTERS; ADOPTING INVESTIGATORY HEARING
RULES

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is a Standing Committee of the Navajo Nation Council with the responsibility to promulgate regulations, promote accountability to polices, and provide legislative oversight. 2 N.N.C. § 400 (C)(1).
- B. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee has the responsibility to exercise oversight authority on matters involving health, social services, education, general governmental services and human services including Navajo Nation polices and priorities to optimize the delivery of social services and health services to the Navajo people consistent with the traditional practices and customs of the Navajo People. 2 N.N.C. § 400(C).

1 C. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is delegated the enumerated
2 power, among other powers, to:

3 1. Ensure compliance and implementation of laws and policies of the Navajo
4 Nation relating to health social services, education, general government
5 services and human services. 2 N.N.C. § 401(B)(2);

6 2. Review and recommend the use of Navajo Nation agreements and contracts
7 negotiated with federal, state, regional, and tribal governments, private and
8 Navajo Nation health and social service authorities, including environmental
9 health, veterans' services or education services subject to applicable laws of
10 the Navajo Nation. § 401(B)(6)(b).

11 D. Standing Committees of the Navajo Nation Council "shall have the power to
12 subpoena and acquire from any executive department, bureau, agency, board,
13 commission, office, independent establishment or instrumentality, information,
14 suggestions, estimates, and statistics necessary for execution of the purposes and
15 authorities [of the Committee]. Each such department, bureau, agency, board,
16 commission, office, establishment or instrumentality is authorized and directed to
17 furnish to the extent permitted by law such information, suggestions, estimates and
18 statistics directly to the committee. . . upon request by the Chairperson." 2 N.N.C. §
19 185(B).

20 E. Standing Committees "may, for the purpose of carrying out [committee] purposes
21 and authorities, hold such hearings and shall have the power to subpoena the
22 attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of books, records,
23 memoranda, papers and documents as deemed advisable." 2 N.N.C. § 185(C).

24 F. Standing Committee "subpoenas and orders may be enforced by the courts of the
25 Navajo Nation by means of civil enforcement of committee action. A committee, by
26 the Office of Legislative Counsel, may apply to the District Court of the Window
27 Rock Judicial District for an order to enforce any committee subpoena." 2 N.N.C. §
28 185(F).

1 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

- 2 A. Since February 2026, the Health, Education and Human Services Committee, has
3 requested the appearance of Navajo Nation Veterans Administration (NNVA)
4 leadership, including its Former Executive Director Bobbie Baldwin, to provide
5 information, both oral and written, concerning the Navajo Nation's Housing listing
6 (which includes American Recue Plan Act (ARPA) contract funds, Veterans Trust
7 Fund, Veterans Housing Trust Fund, home renovations, and home improvements),
8 BITCO Contract utilizing APRA funds through NTUA for electric hook-ups and
9 septic water lines, mortgage payoff listing, and a status report on the Warriors Home.
10 To date, no NNVA representative has appeared before the Health, Education and
11 Human Services Committee to provide the information requested.
- 12 B. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is deeply concerned by the
13 refusal of NNVA to appear before its legislative oversight committee and finds that
14 a formal hearing to receive, investigate the information it has repeatedly requested
15 from the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration is necessary.

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17 **SECTION THREE. AUTHORIZATION, APPROVAL AND DIRECTIVE**

- 18 A. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee shall hold an investigatory
19 hearing to receive information and determine whether the NNVA through its actions
20 associated with the Navajo Nation's Housing listing, and all applicable contracts and
21 funds (which includes ARPA funded housing, Veterans Trust Fund funded housing,
22 home renovations, and home improvements), BITCO Contract utilizing APRA funds
23 through NTUA for electric hook-ups and septic water lines, mortgage payoff listing,
24 and the Warriors Home complied with Navajo Nation and federal laws, regulations,
25 rules, and policies.
- 26 B. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee shall commence the
27 investigatory hearing no later than _____, 2026.
- 28 C. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee approves and adopts the
29 Health, Education and Human Services Committee Investigative Hearing Rules,
30 attached as **Exhibit A**.

- 1 D. At the conclusion of the investigatory hearing, the Health, Education and Human
2 Services Committee shall provide a written and oral report to the Navajo Nation
3 Council setting forth the Committee's findings and recommendations for further
4 action, if any.
- 5 E. The Office of Legislative Counsel, Office of Legislative Services, and Office of the
6 Auditor General shall advise and represent the Health, Education and Human
7 Services Committee during the investigatory hearing.
- 8 F. Divisions, programs, offices, contractors, employees, officials, and witnesses shall
9 preserve all communications and documents, whether paper or electronic, concerning
10 or related to the issues being investigated by the Health, Education and Human
11 Services Committee.

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13 **SECTION FIVE. SAVING CLAUSE**

14 If any portion of this Action is determined invalid by the Navajo Nation Supreme Court,
15 or by a District Court of the Navajo Nation without appeal to the Navajo Nation Supreme
16 Court, the remainder of this Action shall be the law of the Navajo Nation.

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