THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION

LEGISLATION NO: 0267-26 **SPONSOR: Eugenia Charles-Newton**

TITLE: **An Action Relating to the Law and Order Committee, Budget and Finance Committee, Naabik'íyáti' Committee, and the Navajo Nation Council; Amending the Navajo Nation Procurement Act, 12 N.N.C. § 301 et seq., To Prohibit the Expenditure of Public Funds to Place Personal Identifiers Upon Durable Navajo Nation Property**

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET
Tracking No. 0267-26

DATE: October 23, 2026

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACT RELATING TO THE LAW AND ORDER COMMITTEE, BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE, NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE, AND NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; AMENDING THE NAVAJO NATION PROCUREMENT ACT, 12 N.N.C. § 301 ET SEQ., TO PROHIBIT THE EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC FUNDS TO PLACE PERSONAL IDENTIFIERS UPON DURABLE NAVAJO NATION PROPERTY

PURPOSE: This legislation, if approved, would amend the Procurement Act to prohibit the use of Navajo Nation Public Funds to place personal identifiers on property intended for continued or repeated governmental use and would require the use of institutional identifiers that allow Navajo Nation property to be reused notwithstanding changes in elected officials, appointed officials, administrations, or personnel.

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.

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: 11/10/26
Website Posting Time/Date:
Posting End Date: 11/15/26
Eligible for Action: 11/16/26

Law & Order Committee
Thence
Budget & Finance Committee
Thence
Naabik'íyáti' Committee
Thence
Navajo Nation Council

PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION

25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL—Fourth Year, 2026

Introduced By:

Primary Sponsor

Tracking No. 0267-26

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE LAW AND ORDER COMMITTEE, BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE, NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE, AND NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; AMENDING THE NAVAJO NATION PROCUREMENT ACT, 12 N.N.C. § 301 ET SEQ., TO PROHIBIT THE EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC FUNDS TO PLACE PERSONAL IDENTIFIERS UPON DURABLE NAVAJO NATION PROPERTY

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

A. The Law and Order Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with the enumerated power to review and make recommendations to the Navajo Nation Council on proposed amendments to and enactments in the Navajo Nation Code. 2 N.N.C. §§ 600(A) and 601(B)(14).

B. The Budget and Finance Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with the power to review and recommend to the Navajo Nation Council the budgeting, appropriation, investment and management of all funds and to strengthen the fiscal and financial position of the Navajo Nation and to promote the efficient use of the financial resources of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §§ 300(A), (C)(3), and 301(B)(2).

C. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with the authority to hear proposed resolutions requiring final action by the Navajo Nation Council. 2. N.N.C. §§164 (A)(9), 700 (A) and 701 (A)(3).

D. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation and approves amendments to Navajo Nation law. 2 N.N.C. §§ 102 (A) and 164(A).

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

A. The Navajo Nation Council enacted a new Navajo Nation Procurement Act through Resolution No. CMA-22-26 on March 19, 2026, which the President signed into law on April 17, 2026.

B. Among the underlying purposes and policies of the Procurement Act is to provide increased economy in all Navajo Nation procurements and to maximize, to the fullest extent practicable, the purchasing value of Public Funds of the Navajo Nation. 12 N.N.C. § 302(B)(7). The Procurement Act is to be interpreted and applied in a manner that promotes its underlying purposes and policies. 12 N.N.C. § 302(A).

C. The Procurement Act applies to every expenditure of Public Funds, irrespective of source, by the Navajo Nation when acting through a Procuring Party. 12 N.N.C. § 303(C).

D. The Navajo Nation regularly acquires durable property, including tents, canopies, banners, signage, vehicles, equipment, and furnishings, having expected service lives measured in years and frequently exceeding a decade.

E. Elected office within the Navajo Nation government is held for a fixed term. When durable property acquired with Public Funds is marked with a personal identifier associated with an individual officeholder, the useful life of the marking is limited to the remaining term of that office while the useful life of the property itself is not.

F. Durable property bearing a personal identifier cannot be reissued to a successor administration or transferred to another branch, division, department, or program for continued use. The remaining service life of that property is therefore lost to the

Navajo Nation, which does not maximize the purchasing value of Public Funds as required by 12 N.N.C. § 302(B)(7).

G. Property acquired with Public Funds is the property of the Navajo Nation and not of the individual who held office at the time of acquisition. Such property may not be gifted, conveyed, or otherwise transferred to a private individual upon the conclusion of a term of office.

H. Upon the conclusion of a term of office, durable property bearing a personal identifier may only be retained in use, which presents an inaccurate representation of the Nation's current leadership to the public; warehoused, which imposes continuing storage cost while the property remains carried on the Nation's fixed asset inventory and continues to depreciate; declared surplus and disposed of, which writes off the remaining value of otherwise serviceable property; or destroyed, which results in the total loss of that value. Each available disposition results in a loss to the Navajo Nation.

I. Reusable governmental identifiers include the Great Seal of the Navajo Nation, the flag of the Navajo Nation, the name "Navajo Nation," and the official name, title, seal, logo, or other institutional identifier of a Branch, Division, Department, Office, Program, or other governmental entity when the identifier is not uniquely associated with an individual person.

J. The use of reusable governmental identifiers promotes continuity in the use of Navajo Nation property and reduces the need to replace, reprint, remark, or otherwise modify property solely because an elected or appointed official or other individual has left office or employment.

K. Requiring identifiers placed on property acquired with Public Funds to be reusable is consistent with the Procurement Act's policy of providing increased economy in Navajo Nation procurements and maximizing, to the fullest extent practicable, the purchasing value of Public Funds.

SECTION THREE. AMENDING THE NAVAJO NATION PROCUREMENT ACT 12 N.N.C. § 301 ET SEQ

The Navajo Nation hereby amends the Navajo Nation Procurement Act, 12 N.N.C. § 301 et seq., by adding a new Section 306 to Subchapter 1, General Provisions, to read as follows:

TITLE 12. FISCAL MATTERS

CHAPTER 3. NAVAJO NATION PROCUREMENT ACT

SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

* * *

§ 306. Personal identifiers on durable property

A. Definitions. For purposes of this Section:

1. "Personal Identifier" means the name, likeness, image, signature, initials, or personally adopted logo, emblem, slogan, motto, or insignia of any individual who holds or has held elective or appointed office within the Navajo Nation government, whether or not accompanied by the title of that office.
2. "Nation Identifier" means the Great Seal of the Navajo Nation, the flag of the Navajo Nation, the official name of the Navajo Nation, or the official name of a branch, division, department, office, program, or entity of the Navajo Nation.
3. "Durable Property" means any tangible item of property having an expected service life exceeding the remaining term of the office associated with the Personal Identifier at the time of Procurement, and includes without limitation any item required to be recorded on the Navajo Nation's fixed asset inventory.

B. Prohibition. Notwithstanding Section 303(D), no Public Funds, irrespective of source, shall be expended to procure, produce, apply, imprint, embroider, engrave, affix, or otherwise place a Personal Identifier upon any Durable Property, or to procure any Durable Property upon which a Personal Identifier has been placed.

C. Uniform identification. Durable Property procured with Public Funds and bearing any identifying mark shall bear only a Nation Identifier.

D. Permitted uses. This Section does not prohibit:

1. The use of an individual's name and title in a signature block, in correspondence, on a business card, on a nameplate, on an office door or building directory, or on an identification credential;
2. The name of an office, branch, division, department, office, or program, as distinct from the name of the individual holding that office;
3. Any mark, logo, or attribution required as a condition of a federal, state, or other external funding award, or by an executed contract or intergovernmental agreement; or
4. Items acquired for museum, archival, commemorative, or historical purposes and accessioned as such.

E. Compliance. The Controller shall reject any requisition, purchase order, or request for payment that on its face violates this Section. Failure to comply with this Section shall be addressed under Section 372. The Controller shall include compliance with this Section in the statistical data collected and reported under Section 363(A).

* * *

SECTION FOUR. CODIFICATION

The provision of this Act which amend or adopt new sections of the Navajo Nation Code shall be codified by the Office of Legislative Counsel. The Office of Legislative Counsel shall incorporate such amended provisions in the next codification of the Navajo Nation Code.

SECTION FIVE. SAVING CLAUSE

If any provision of this Act is determined invalid by the Supreme Court of the Navajo Nation, or by a Navajo Nation District Court without appeal to the Navajo Nation Supreme Court, the remainder of this Act shall remain the law of the Navajo Nation.

SECTION SIX. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Act shall become effective in accordance with 2 N.N.C. §§ 164(A)(17), 221(A), (B), and 1005(C)(10)-(11).