

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0216-20__

SPONSOR: Eugenia Charles-Newton

TITLE: An Action Relating to Health Education and Human Services, Budget and Finance, Law and Order, and Naabik'iyáti' Committees and Navajo Nation Council; Extending the Fund Lapse Exception to the Annual Appropriation to the Veterans Trust Fund, as set forth in 12 N.N.C. § 1171 (B), Through Navajo Nation Fiscal Year 2024

Date posted: August 28, 2020 at 10:17PM

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Window Rock, AZ 86515
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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET
Tracking No. 0216-20

DATE: August 28, 2020

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO HEALTH EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES, BUDGET AND FINANCE, LAW AND ORDER, AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTÍ COMMITTEES AND NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; EXTENDING THE FUND LAPSE EXCEPTION TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION TO THE VETERANS TRUST FUND, AS SET FORTH IN 12 N.N.C. § 1171 (B), THROUGH NAVAJO NATION FISCAL YEAR 2024

PURPOSE: If this resolution is approved, Veteran Trust Fund Housing Program funds will not lapse until the end of FY 2024.


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

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: Johnson
Website Posting Time/Date: _____
Posting End Date: 09-02-20
Eligible for Action: 09-03-20

Health Education & Human Services Committee
Thence
Budget & Finance Committee
Thence
Law & Order Committee
Thence
Naabik'iyáti' Committee
Thence
Navajo Nation Council

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PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION
24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – Second Year, 2020
INTRODUCED BY

Primary Sponsor

TRACKING NO. 0216-20

AN ACTION
RELATING TO HEALTH EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES, BUDGET AND FINANCE, LAW AND ORDER, AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTÍ COMMITTEES AND NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; EXTENDING THE FUND LAPSE EXCEPTION TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION TO THE VETERANS TRUST FUND, AS SET FORTH IN 12 N.N.C. § 1171 (B), THROUGH NAVAJO NATION FISCAL YEAR 2024

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with the delegated responsibility and authority to review and recommend resolutions regarding veterans' services. 2 N.N.C. §400 (C)(3).
- B. The Budget and Finance Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with the delegated responsibility and authority to review and recommend to the Navajo Nation Council the budgeting, appropriation, investment, and management of all funds. 2 N.N.C. § 300 (C) (2).
- D The Law and Order Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with the specific power to review and recommend to the Navajo Nation

1 Council proposed amendments to and enactments of the Navajo Nation Code. 2
2 N.N.C. § 601 (B)(14).

3 E. The Naabik'iyáti' Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation
4 Council with the specific power to review proposed legislation which requires
5 final action by the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. § 701 (A)(3).

6 F. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation. 2
7 N.N.C. § 102 (A).

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9 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

10 A. The Navajo Nation Veterans Trust Fund is set forth in the Navajo Nation Code
11 at 12 N.N.C. § 1171 *et seq.*.

12 B. The establishment section of the Navajo Nation Veterans Trust Fund states as
13 follows:

14 § 1171. Establishment

15 A. The "Navajo Nation Veterans Trust Fund" hereinafter the "Trust Fund" is
16 established with an initial appropriation of six million dollars
17 (\$6,000,000.00) from revenues from Undesignated Tribal Reserves. Each
18 year, during the appropriation of the Navajo Nation Comprehensive
19 Budget, the Navajo Nation Council shall budget a sum equal to at least
20 four percent (4%) of any and all projected revenues of the Navajo Nation,
21 including, but not limited to revenues received from taxes, oil and gas,
22 mining and minerals, timber, land rentals, interest and dividends, gain on
23 sale of securities and other revenue producing activities. One-half (1/2) of
24 that four percent (4%) shall be transferred to the Navajo Veteran's Trust
25 Fund to be used as set forth herein. The remaining one-half (1/2) of that
26 four percent (4%) shall be administered by the Department of Navajo
27 Veteran's Affairs (DNVA). Each of the five (5) DNVA Agency offices
28 shall be allocated an equal share of that amount to provide construction of
29 up to fifteen (15) homes equitably in each of their respective Agencies
30 using all possible assistance program funds that such veterans may qualify

1 for to construct as many homes as possible and provide minor home
2 renovations and repairs for Navajo veterans.

3 B. The annual appropriation authorized above shall continue and for purposes
4 of this resolution, all unexpended funds shall not lapse back into the
5 Veterans Trust Fund through Fiscal Year 2017, and shall expire thereafter,
6 unless specifically re-authorized.

7 C. Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. CS-56-17, attached as **Exhibit 1**,
8 extended 12 N.N.C. § 1171 (B)'s exception to the fund lapse provision for
9 Veterans Housing Programs funds through Fiscal Year 2020.

10 D. Through NNVAC-10-20, attached as **Exhibit 2**, the Navajo Nation Veterans
11 Advisory Council has recommended that the exception to the fund lapse
12 provision for Veterans Housing Program funds be extended.

13 E. It is in the best interest of the Navajo Nation veterans and others effected that
14 the Navajo Nation specifically re-authorize the continued availability of
15 unexpended funds in the Navajo Nation Veterans Housing Program at the end
16 of Fiscal Year 2020 by extending their exemption from lapsing until the end of
17 Fiscal Year 2024.

18 19 **SECTION THREE. APPROVAL**

20 The Navajo Nation hereby specifically re-authorizes, as required by 12 N.N.C.
21 § 1171 (B), the continued availability of unexpended funds in the Navajo
22 Nation Veterans Housing Program at the end of Fiscal Year 2020 by extending
23 such funds exemption from lapsing until the end of Fiscal Year 2024.

24 25 **SECTION FOUR. EFFECTIVE DATE**

26 This action shall become effective in accord with 2 N.N.C. § 221(B).
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