# RESOLUTION OF THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE

### 23rd NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- Fourth Year, 2018

#### AN ACTION

RELATING TO NAABIK'ÍYÁTI'; ESTABLISHING POLICY DIRECTION FOR GAMING NEGOTIATIONS AND OPERATIONS; DIRECTING MARKET STUDIES AND ANALYSES

#### WHEREAS:

- A. The Navajo Nation established the Naabik'íyáti' Committee as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee and, as such, empowered Naabik'íyáti' Committee to review and continually monitor the program and activities of federal and state departments and to assist development of such programs designed to serve the Navajo People and the Navajo Nation through intergovernmental relationships between the Navajo Nation and such departments. See 2 N.N.C. §§ 700 (A), 701 (A) (7).
- B. The Intergovernmental Relations Committee of the Navajo Nation Council approved the Gaming Compact between the Navajo Nation and the State of Arizona ("State") ("Gaming Compact"). See IGRD-250-02.
- C. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council passed Resolution NABIO-62-15 authorizing the establishment of the Arizona Gaming Task Force Subcommittee ("Gaming Subcommittee") to negotiate the renewal and appropriate amendments of the current Gaming Compact between the State and the Navajo Nation.
- D. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council passed Resolution NABIN-92-16 approving an agreement to amend the Gaming Compact ("Agreement to Amend Compact").
- E. Since signing the Agreement to Amend Compact, the Tohono O'odham Nation and the State of Arizona have entered into a settlement agreement relating to Tohono O'odham Nation's gaming facility in Maricopa County, and Tohono O'odham Nation has also signed an agreement to amend the Gaming Compact and joined other Arizona Tribes, including the Navajo Nation, to participate in the negotiations. There are currently at least 17 Arizona Tribes that have signed

- the Agreement to Amend Compact and are participating with varying degrees of engagement in the negotiations.
- F. Over the course of the tribal-state negotiations under the Agreement to Amend Compact, progress has been made on many issues of concern to the Navajo Nation. Negotiations continue as Tribes in the Phoenix metropolitan area work to resolve matters of particular importance to those Tribes. These metropolitan area matters must be resolved in order to complete negotiations for a new compact with all of the Arizona compact Tribes. The Navajo Nation continues to work collectively and independently to complete negotiations.
- G. The current Gaming Compact provides for tribal exclusivity with respect to certain gaming activities within the boundaries of the State. Preserving this exclusivity is imperative to protect and enhance the Navajo Nation's investment in gaming in the State.
- H. On October 25, 2018 and December 22, 2018, the Gaming Subcommittee met to review and discuss the status and next steps in the negotiation process. The direction given from the Gaming Subcommittee was for the Navajo Nation to move forward with the negotiation and address certain short and long term goals relating to duration, sports betting, protection of the Navajo gaming market in northern Arizona, and other related priorities, including to modernize the tribal-state gaming compact and Navajo gaming within the State.
- I. The Navajo Nation has considered the Gaming Subcommittee's direction and finds it in the best interest of the Navajo Nation to establish such direction as the policy of the Navajo Nation for gaming negotiations.

## NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

A. It is the policy of the Navajo Nation to pursue agreements with the State and other Arizona Tribes with respect to an extended compact duration, authorization of a full scope of Class III gaming, increased bet limits, enhanced tribal exclusivity, operation of sports betting and fantasy sports, maintenance of revenue sharing, maintenance of machine transfer agreements, enhancement of income opportunities for non-gaming Tribes, streamlined regulation, protection of Navajo gaming interests, and any

other agreement to effectuate the purpose of this resolution.

B. Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise is directed to conduct market impact studies and financial analyses, including gaming and non-gaming facilities, to identify options and make recommendations to protect Navajo Nation investment in Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise and the northern Arizona gaming market.

#### CERTIFICATION

I, hereby, certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the  $23^{\rm rd}$  Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting in Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona), at which a quorum was present and that the same was passed by a vote of 12 in Favor, and 00 Opposed, on this  $31^{\rm st}$  day of December 2018.

LoRenzo C. Bates, Chairman Naabik'íyáti' Committee

Motioned: Honorable Davis Filfred
Second: Honorable Nathaniel Brown

Chairman LoRenzo C. Bates not voting

**NAVAJO NATION** 

RCS# 1198

Naa'bik'iyati Committee

12/31/2018 04:03:39 PM

Amd# to Amd#

Legislation 0453-18: Establish-

**PASSED** 

MOT Filfred SEC Brown ing Policy Direction for Gaming

Negotiations and Operations;

Directing Market Studies and...

Yea: 12

Nay: 0

Excused: 0

Not Voting: 12

Yea: 12

Begay, K BeGaye, N Brown **Daniels**  Jack

Shepherd

**Bennett** 

Filfred

Kieyoomia Pete

Tsosie Yellowhair

Nay: 0

Excused: 0

Not Voting: 12

**Bates** Begay, NM

Chee

Crotty Damon Hale

Perry Phelps Slim

Smith

Tso

Yazzie