LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0198-21

DATE: September 9, 2021

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE; ESTABLISHING THE EDUCATIONAL RECOVERY TASK FORCE

PURPOSE: This resolution, if adopted, would establish the Educational Recovery Task Force.

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: 6:55pm 09-15-21
Posting End Date: 09-20-21
Eligible for Action: 09-21-21

Health Education & Human Services Committee

PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL — Third Year, 2021

INTRODUCED BY

(Primary Sponsor)

TRACKING NO. 0198-21

AN ACTION

RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE; ESTABLISHING THE EDUCATIONAL RECOVERY TASK FORCE

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

A. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. §400 *et seq*. The committee oversees the Department of Diné Education, the Navajo Nation Board of Education, and colleges within the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 401(B)(1) and (3). In carrying out these oversight responsibilities, the committee "assist[s], support[s] and coordinate[s] with local communities, parent organizations and school boards and school board organizations." 2 N.N.C. § 401(B)(4).

B. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 401(B)(5), the Health, Education and Human Services Committee is authorized to "delegate responsibilities and authorities as appropriate to the Divisions, Chapters and appropriate entities for the efficiency and streamlining of government processes provided that the Committee first approves rules and regulations governing such delegations and rescission of such delegations." 2 N.N.C. § 401(B)(5).

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

A. The education of our Navajo children has been affected and interrupted by the health crisis of COVID-19. The educational disruption has been severe, essentially resulting in a learning crisis. This crisis has affected the entire nation, reflected through low academic test scores and standardized benchmarks not being met.

B. This educational crisis must be addressed, by the Navajo Nation locally and the federal government at the national level. The responsibility for the education of Navajo children rests with both the Navajo Nation and the federal government.

C. It is in the best interests of the Navajo Nation that a Task Force be established for purposes of reviewing and addressing certain issues and concerns related to the impact of COVID-19 on the education of Navajo children.

SECTION THREE. EDUCATIONAL RECOVERY FORCE ESTABLISHMENT

A. The Navajo Nation establishes the Educational Recovery Task Force to review the following subject areas, issues and concerns:

1). Drop-out rate of Navajo students during the pandemic (including the number of students permanently dropping out).

2). Plans for remediation of learning loss during the pandemic (including current mitigation efforts).

3). Plans for training teachers in providing effective evidence-based online education, and whether teachers are prepared to use online teaching methods.

4). The impact of internet connectivity issues on student participation in daily online school instructions and activities (including the number of Navajo students impacted).

5). Plans for school official s in making home visits for purposes of following up on at-risk students.

6). The severity of exploitation by family members of assistance made available to students under COVID-10 relief help.

7). Parents losing jobs due to providing daily care for their children at home and not in school due to the pandemic (including number of parents losing jobs).

8). The inability of parents in providing on li ne learning assistance to their children due to computer literacy problems faced by parents (including the number of such parents).

9). Adequate mental and emotional support for Navajo students in coping with fear and anxiety related to the pandemic (including the number of students provided such support).

B. By written report, the Educational Recovery Task Force shall provide recommendations on addressing issues identified herein. This written report shall be presented to the Health, Education and Human Service Committee no later than 90 days of Task Force establishment.

C. The Educational Recovery Task Force shall consist of:

1). The Superintendent of the Navajo Nation Department of Diné Education;

2). _____ members of the Health, Education and Human Services Committee –

_____

_____

3). _____;

4). _____; and,

5). _____.

D. Rules and regulations shall be as follows:

1). The presence of a majority of Task Force members shall constitute a quorum.

2). To the extent permitted by Navajo Nation law, and except as otherwise provided herein, the same rules and provisions of law applicable to subcommittees of standing committees of the Navajo Nation Council shall apply to the Task Force.

3). The members of the Task Force, by majority vote, shall select and determine the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of Task Force.

4). The Task Force shall determine meeting dates and times.

5). The Navajo Department of Diné Education shall provide technical assistance to the Task Force. The Navajo Department of Justice and Office of Legislative Counsel shall provide legal advice and guidance on any legal issues and concerns. The

Office of Legislative Services and the staff of Department of Diné Education shall provide any clerical and administrative assistance.

6). The Task Force shall provide a written report on all assigned tasks herein, including recommendations, and provide this report to the Health, Education and Human Services Committee no later than 90 days of Task Force establishment.

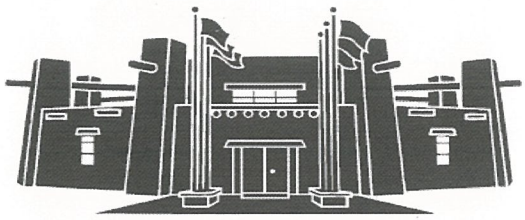
7). The Task Force shall exist for a period of 90 calendar days, unless extended by duly approved resolution of the Health, Education and Human Services Committee.

8). The Task Force shall be authorized to take any other necessary and proper action not specified herein, provided such action is consistent with the intent and purposes of this resolution of the Health, Education and Human Services Committee.

SECTION FOUR. SAVINGS CLAUSE

Should any part of this action be determined invalid by the Navajo Nation Supreme Court or the District Courts of the Navajo Nation, without appeal to the Navajo Nation Supreme Court, portions not determined invalid shall remain the law of the Navajo Nation.

Office of Legislative Counsel
Telephone: (928) 871-7166
Fax # (928) 871-7576



Honorable Seth Damon
Speaker
24th Navajo Nation Council

MEMORANDUM

To : Hon. Eugene Tso, Delegate
Navajo Nation Council

Hon. Seth Damon, Speaker
Navajo Nation Council

From : _____
Ron Haven, Attorney
Office of Legislative Counsel

Date : September 9, 2021

Re : AN ACTION RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE; ESTABLISHING THE EDUCATIONAL RECOVERY TASK FORCE

As requested, I have prepared the above-referenced proposed resolution and associated legislative summary sheet pursuant to your request for legislative drafting. As to format, the resolution as drafted is legally sufficient. Regarding substance, as with any legislation, it can be subject to review by the courts in the event of proper challenge. Please ensure that this particular resolution request is precisely what you want.

If you are satisfied with the proposed resolution, please sign it as "sponsor" and submit it to the Office of Legislative Services where it will be given a tracking number and sent to the Office of the Speaker for assignment. If the proposed resolution is unacceptable to you, please contact me at the Office of Legislative Counsel and advise me of the changes you would like made to the proposed resolution. Ahéhee'.

OLC # 21-370-1

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION

LEGISLATION NO: _0198-21__ **SPONSOR: Eugene Tso**

TITLE: An Action Relating to Health, Education and Human Services Committee; Establishing the Educational Recovery Task Force

***Date posted*: September 15, 2021 at 6:55PM**

Digital comments may be e-mailed to comments@navajo-nsn.gov

Written comments may be mailed to:

Executive Director
Office of Legislative Services
P.O. Box 3390
Window Rock, AZ 86515
(928) 871-7586

Comments may be made in the form of chapter resolutions, letters, position papers, etc. Please include your name, position title, address for written comments; a valid e-mail address is required. Anonymous comments will not be included in the Legislation packet.

Please note: This digital copy is being provided for the benefit of the Navajo Nation chapters and public use. Any political use is prohibited. All written comments received become the property of the Navajo Nation and will be forwarded to the assigned Navajo Nation Council standing committee(s) and/or the Navajo Nation Council for review. Any tampering with public records are punishable by Navajo Nation law pursuant to 17 N.N.C. *§374 et. seq.*

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW SUMMARY

LEGISLATION NO.: 0198-21

SPONSOR: Honorable Eugene Tso

TITLE: An Action Relating to Health, Education and Human Services Committee; Establishing the Educational Recovery Task Force

Posted: September 15, 2021 at 6:55 PM

5 DAY Comment Period Ended: September 20, 2021

Digital Comments received:

Comments Supporting	**1.) Triston Black**
Comments Opposing	***None***
Comments/Recommendations	***None***

VSRedhorse
Legislative Tracking Secretary
Office of Legislative Services

September 21, 2021 8:30 AM
Date/Time

Legislation 0198-21

Triston Black <tristonblack@outlook.com>

Fri 9/17/2021 3:21 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Yá'át'ééh,

I appreciate this legislation and the concern for Diné education and to continue the success of our Diné students. As a graduate student majoring in Indigenous Education, we as students are acquiring tremendous knowledge and information about Indigenous Knowledge Systems. Our Diné teachings, paradigms, and education are strong pillars for support student success and achieve Diné education in the long term. Reading and analyzing Legislation 0198-21, I am in **support** of this Task Force. Such discussions, recommendations, and policy decisions will only improve our success as students. One recommendation I would suggest is having students involved in the task force and be an active contributor to the discussion and planning. Having a student voice at the table will acknowledge our students from various parts of our Navajo Nation. Thank you for the legislation and I look forward to the discussions when brought forth.

Axéhee'

Triston Black

Arizona State University, Graduate Student - Indigenous Education Major

Tsaile Chapter

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