

RESOLUTION OF THE  
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

23RD NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - First Year, 2015

AN ACTION

RELATING TO NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL;  
CONFIRMING HONORABLE LORENZO BATES AS SPEAKER OF THE 23RD NAVAJO  
NATION COUNCIL

BE IT ENACTED:

**Section One. Findings and Purpose**

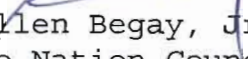
1. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §164(A)(9), reviews proposed legislation which requires final action by the Navajo Nation Council.
2. Under Navajo Nation law, the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council is selected and confirmed by delegates of the Navajo Nation Council as the first order of business at the Council session scheduled for the fourth Monday in January of any odd numbered year. 2 N.N.C. §282(C).
3. The Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council serves at the pleasure of the Navajo Nation Council, and shall serve for a term of two (2) years. 2 N.N.C. §282(A)-(B).
4. "The Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council shall be a member of the Navajo Nation Council, in good standing." 2 N.N.C. §281(B).
5. Pursuant to Navajo Nation Council Resolution CJA-03-11, each Council shall be authorized to select a Speaker pursuant to its own process and procedure. See Navajo Nation Council Resolution CJA-03-11 attached as Exhibit A.
6. It is in the best interest of the Navajo Nation to select a Speaker for the Navajo Nation Council for the 23rd Navajo Nation Council adopting the procedure for selection of the Speaker as stated in CJA-03-11.

**Section Two.** Confirming Honorable LoRenzo Bates to serve as Speaker of the 23rd Navajo Nation Council.

The Navajo Nation Council, pursuant to its authority under Navajo Nation law, hereby confirms Honorable LoRenzo Bates to serve as Speaker of the 23rd Navajo Nation Council.

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the 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 23 in favor and 0 opposed, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of January 2015.

  
Kee Allen Begay, Jr., Pro Tem Speaker  
Navajo Nation Council

1/26/15  
Date

Motion: Honorable Seth Damon  
Second: Honorable Raymond Smith, Jr.



CJA-03-11

RESOLUTION OF THE  
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

22nd NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - First Year 2011

AN ACTION

RELATING TO THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; RESCINDING CJA-1-93 AND CJA-02-99, RESOLUTIONS ADDRESSING THE PROCESS AND PROCEDURE FOR THE SELECTION AND CONFIRMATION OF THE SPEAKER OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL TO SELECT ITS SPEAKER AND ADOPT A PROCESS AND PROCEDURE ACCORDINGLY

BE IT ENACTED:

Section 1. Findings and Purpose

1. The number of delegates to the Navajo Nation Council was reduced from 88 to 24 members by vote of Diné voters.
2. Pursuant to Navajo Nation law, the Navajo Nation Council is authorized to select a speaker from among its membership. The selection of the speaker is an internal process of the Navajo Nation Council.
3. In January 1993, the Navajo Nation Council adopted rules in the selection of Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council. CJA-01-93. These rules were amended in special Session of the Navajo Nation Council in 1999. CJA-02-99 (Document No. 2026).
4. In accordance with Diné tradition, the rules in the selection of the Speaker must be inclusive and allow broader participation by all delegates to the Navajo Nation Council. The process involved in the selection of a Diné leader is done in a democratic manner, with utmost participation by every delegate of the Navajo Nation Council.
5. In order that the requirements of 2 N.N.C. § 282 (C) be met and that the selection and confirmation of the speaker of the Navajo Nation Council be the first order of business at the council session scheduled for the fourth Monday in January of 2011 and this selection be done in a manner consistent with Navajo tradition and the intent of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Navajo Nation Council.

**Section 2. Rescinding CJA-1-93 and CJA-02-99**

The Navajo Nation Council rescinds CJA-1-93 and CJA-02-99.

**Section 3. Rules in the Selection of the Speaker**

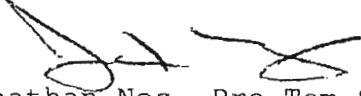
For the 22<sup>nd</sup> Navajo Nation Council, the Navajo Nation Council hereby adopts the following rules:

1. Each Council of the Navajo Nation shall be authorized to select a Speaker pursuant to its own process.
2. The Speaker shall be selected as the first order of business at the Winter Session of the Navajo Nation Council, January 2011. The Speaker shall be selected and confirmed by the Navajo Nation Council as the first item of business at the council session scheduled for the fourth Monday in January of any odd numbers year, 2 N.N.C. § 282 (C).
3. Read the powers and duties of the speaker, as written in 2 N.N.C. Section 285 into the record.
4. Any delegate may nominate another delegate to serve as Speaker with no second required. If the current Speaker is nominated and accepts the nomination, he/she shall point a Speaker pro tem pursuant to 2 N N.C. 285(b)(3).
5. The number of nominations shall be unlimited, except upon motion, second and majority vote on closing the nomination process.
6. Each nominee shall accept or reject a nomination upon being nominated.
7. Each nominee, in order of his or her draw, shall be allowed to make a 15-minute statement on his or her platform for Speaker.
8. Each nominee, in the order of his or her draw, shall be allowed to make a 15-minute statement on his or her platform for Speaker.
9. Questions shall not be allowed.

10. Upon presentations by nominees, each member of the Navajo Nation Council present shall cast one vote for a candidate by secret ballot. The Navajo Nation Election Administration shall assist in the balloting.
11. In the event there are more than two nominees, there shall be a run-off election between the two candidates receiving the most votes. At which time, the final two candidates will be allowed 5 minute statement before final vote, with no questions or comments. This run-off election procedure shall not apply in the event candidates and is hereby declared the winner.
12. In the event of a tie vote, selection shall be by random lot.
13. The Council shall by resolution confirm its new Speaker

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the 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 21 in favor and 2 opposed, this 24th day of January 2011.

  
Jonathan Nez, Pro Tem Speaker  
Navajo Nation Council

01-24-11

Date

Motion: Charles Damon, II  
Second: Jonathan Hale