

RESOLUTION OF THE  
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE  
24<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- First Year, 2019

AN ACTION

RELATING TO THE HEALTH, EDUCATION & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, AND THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; REQUESTING NEW MEXICO AND ARIZONA DELEGATIONS TO SPONSOR A BILL AMENDING 25 U.S.C 13, "THE SNYDER ACT," TO AUTHORIZE FORWARD FUNDING OF THE BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION HIGHER EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Navajo Nation established the Health, Education, and Human Services Committee ("HEHSC") as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee and as such empowered HEHSC to review and recommend resolutions relating to education within the Navajo Nation 2 N.N.C. § 400(C)(1).
- B. The Navajo Nation established the Naabik'íyáti' Committee as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee. 2 N.N.C. § 700 (A).
- C. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee has the power to coordinate all federal, county and state programs with other standing committees and branches of the Navajo Nation government to provide the most efficient delivery of services to Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 701(A)(4).
- D. The Navajo Nation has a government-to-government relationship with the United States of America, Treaty of 1868, Aug. 12, 1868, 15 Stat. 667.

Section Two. Findings

- A. The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) operates the Higher Education Grant ("Grant") as authorized by 25 U.S.C 13, "The Snyder Act," enacted on November 2, 1921.

- B. The Navajo Nation provides college financial assistance and scholarships from the Grant directly to Navajo college students through a P.L. 93-638 contract; and throughout Indian Country, numerous Indian Tribes have administered their own scholarship program through P.L. 93-638 contracts.
- C. The Federal government routinely operates under continuing resolutions. As such, Grant funding is delayed. Consequently, college scholarship and financial assistance payments, and institutional disbursements are delayed. This is problematic for the Navajo and Indian college students who depend on these funds to pay for tuition, books, and room and board.
- D. There is a precedent for forward funding of Federal Indian education programs; Bureau of Indian Education funded schools, including P.L. 93-638 and P.L. 100-297 schools, and Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities, are forward funded through 25 U.S.C. § 2010 and 25 U.S.C. § 1810 respectively.
- E. The proposed bill will amend 25 U.S.C 13, commonly known as "The Snyder Act," by adding the following: "Amounts appropriated in an appropriation Act for any fiscal year to carry out the Bureau of Indian Education Higher Education Grant Program (Scholarships and Adult Education, Special Education Scholarships, and the Science Post Graduate Scholarship Fund) shall be available for obligation on July 1 of such fiscal year and shall remain available until September 30 of the succeeding fiscal year." See draft bill attached as **Exhibit A**.
- F. It is in Navajo Nation's best interest to request New Mexico and Arizona Delegations to sponsor a bill amending 25 U.S.C 13, "The Snyder Act," to authorize forward funding of the Bureau of Indian Education Higher Education Grant Program.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

- A. The Navajo Nation hereby requests New Mexico and Arizona Delegations to sponsor a bill amending 25 U.S.C 13, "The Snyder Act," to authorize forward funding of the Bureau of Indian Education Higher Education Grant Program, and urges the United States Congress to pass and enact this legislation.

- B. The Navajo Nation hereby authorizes the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council, President of the Navajo Nation, the Navajo Nation Washington Office, and their respective designees, to advocate on the behalf of the Navajo Nation to support the passage and enactment of amendments to 25 U.S.C. 13, "The Snyder Act" to authorize forward funding of the Bureau of Indian Education Higher Education Grant Program.

**CERTIFICATION**

I, hereby, certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Naabik'iyáti' Committee of the 24<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> day of September 2019.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Seth Damon", is written over the printed name.

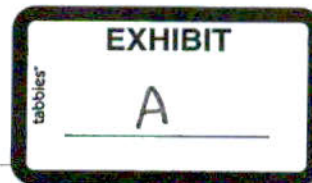
Honorable Seth Damon, Chairman  
Naabik'iyáti' Committee

Motion: Honorable Mark A. Freeland

Second: Honorable Jamie Henio

Chairman Seth Damon not voting





116TH CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

S. \_\_\_\_\_

To amend the Act commonly known as the Snyder Act to authorize forward funding of the Bureau of Indian Education Higher Education Grant Program

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

\_\_\_\_\_ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To amend the Act commonly known as the Snyder Act to authorize forward funding of the Bureau of Indian Education Higher Education Grant Program.

1                   *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives*  
2                   *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3                   **SECTION 1. FORWARD FUNDING OF BUREAU OF INDIAN**  
4                               **EDUCATION'S HIGHER EDUCATION GRANT**  
5                               **PROGRAM**

6                   CHAPTER 115 of the Act entitled, "An Act authorizing  
7                   appropriations and expenditures for the administration of  
8                   Indian Affairs, and for other purposes", approved November 2,

1        1921 (25 U.S.C. 13) (commonly known as the Snyder Act) is  
2        amended by adding at the end the following 2 paragraph:  
3        "Amounts appropriated in an appropriation Act for any fiscal  
4        year to carry out the Bureau of Indian Education Higher  
5        Education Grant Program (Scholarships and Adult Education,  
6        Special Education Scholarships, and the Science Post Graduate  
7        Scholarship Fund) shall be available for obligation on July 1 of  
8        such fiscal year and shall remain available until September 30  
9        of the succeeding fiscal year."

116TH CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend the Act commonly known as the Snyder Act to authorize forward funding of the Bureau of Indian Education's Higher Education Grant Program

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

\_\_\_\_\_ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To amend the Act commonly known as the Snyder Act to authorize forward funding of the Bureau of Indian Education's Higher Education Grant Program.

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2                   *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3                   **SECTION 1. FORWARD FUNDING OF BUREAU OF INDIAN**  
4                               **EDUCATION   HIGHER   EDUCATION   GRANT**  
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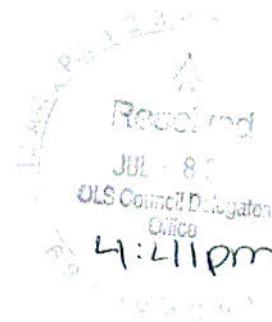
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6        Special Education Scholarships, and the Science Post Graduate  
7        Scholarship Fund) shall be available for obligation on July 1 of  
8        such fiscal year and shall remain available until September 30  
9        of the succeeding fiscal year."

# THE NAVAJO NATION

JONATHAN NEZ PRESIDENT  
MYRON LIZER VICE PRESIDENT

July 8, 2019

The Honorable Daniel Tso, Chairman  
Health, Education and Human Services Committee  
The Navajo Nation Council  
P.O. Box 1760  
Window Rock, Navajo Nation (AZ) 86515



**RE: REQUEST TO SPONSOR NAVAJO NATION LEGISLATION IN SUPPORT OF FORWARD FUNDING THE BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION HIGHER EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM**

Mr. Chairman:

I write to request your sponsorship of Navajo Nation Legislation supporting and requesting Congress to authorize forward funding of the Bureau of Indian Education Higher Education Grant. Attached is draft Navajo Nation Council legislation for your consideration. Please contact me at 9298-871-7444 or [rosegraham@navajo-nsn.gov](mailto:rosegraham@navajo-nsn.gov).

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rose Graham".

Rose Graham, Director  
Office of Navajo Nation Scholarship and Financial Assistance

cc: Members of the Health, Education and Human Services Committee, Navajo Nation Council  
Ms. Kristin Lowell, Legislative Counsel, Navajo Nation Council (Via Email and Hardcopy)  
Dr. Tommy Lewis, Superintendent, Department of Dine Education (Via Email)  
Dr. Tim Benally, Assistant Superintendent, Department of Dine Education (Via Email)  
Mr. Matthew Tso, Legislative Analyst, Department of Dine Education (Via Email)

Honorable Pernell Halona



# NAVAJO NATION

297

9/5/2019

Naa'bik'iyati Committee Meeting

05:54:58 PM

Amd# to Amd#	Legislation 0242-19: Requesting	PASSED
MOT Freeland, M	New Mexico and Arizona	
SEC Henio, J	Delegations to Sponsor a Bill	
	Amending 25 U.S.C 13, "The....	

**Yea : 12**

**Nay : 0**

**Excused : 2**

**Not Voting : 8**

## Yea : 12

Begay, P	Freeland, M	Nez, R	Tso, O
Brown	Halona, P	Smith	Walker, T
Charles-Newton	Henio, J	Tso, C	Yellowhair

## Nay : 0

## Excused : 2

Begay, E	Tso, D
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## Not Voting : 8

Begay, K	Daniels	Stewart, W	Wauneka, E
Crotty	James, V	Tso, E	Yazzie

**Presiding Chair: Damon**