

## **SUMMARY OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

Tracking No. 0116-23

DATE: May 23, 2023

**RE: AN ACTION RELATING TO THE BUDGET AND FINANCE  
COMMITTEE; APPROVING AND ESTABLISHING THE  
COMMITTEE'S PRIORITIES FOR THE FOUR-YEAR TERM OF THE  
25<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL**

### **Purpose of this Legislation:**

to approve and establish the Priorities of the Budget and Finance Committee.

OLC No. 23-227-1

## 1 PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

2 25<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - First Year, 2023

3 Introduced by:

4   
5  
6 (Prime Sponsor)7  
8 Tracking No. 0116-23  
9

## 10 AN ACTION

11 RELATING TO THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE; APPROVING  
12 AND ESTABLISHING THE COMMITTEE'S PRIORITIES FOR THE  
13 FOUR-YEAR TERM OF THE 25<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL  
1415 BE IT ENACTED:  
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## 17 SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

18 A. The Budget & Finance Committee ("BFC") is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation  
19 Council that is authorized to review, and make recommendations concerning budgeting and  
20 management of all Navajo Nation funds. 2 N.N.C. §300(A), 2 N.N.C. §301(B)(2).21 B. The BFC also coordinates, oversees, and regulates the Navajo Nation's financial, investment,  
22 contracting, and audit policies. 2 N.N.C. §300(A), 2 N.N.C. §300(C)(1).23 C. The BFC is extensively involved in the Navajo Nation's annual Comprehensive Budget  
24 process. 12 N.N.C. §830 and §840.25 D. The BFC has authority over the Navajo Nation's Procurement Regulations, as delegated by  
26 the Navajo Nation Council in the Navajo Nation Procurement Act. 12 N.N.C. §320(A).  
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## 28 SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

29 A. The BFC met on May 16, 2023 and the Committee members discussed and deliberated on  
30 the BFC's overall priorities for matters within the Committee's authority.

1 The Committee members agreed upon the following list of overall priorities, as shown in the  
2 attached **EXHIBIT 1**, titled: "25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council Budget and Finance Committee  
3 Priorities:"

- 4 1. procurement reform;
- 5 2. appropriation reform;
- 6 3. prioritize funding based on return on investment;
- 7 4. eliminate earmarks;
- 8 5. identify and act upon revenue streams.

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10 **SECTION THREE. APPROVING AND ESTABLISHING THE COMMITTEE'S**  
11 **PRIORITIES FOR THE FOUR-YEAR TERM OF THE 25<sup>th</sup>**  
12 **NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL**

13 A. The Budget and Finance Committee hereby approves and establishes the Committee's  
14 priorities, as shown above and in the attached **EXHIBIT 1**, titled: "25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation  
15 Council Budget and Finance Committee Priorities."

16 B. The EXHIBIT 1 list of priorities shall remain in effect during the term of the 25<sup>th</sup> Navajo  
17 Nation Council unless and until the BFC rescinds or amends the list.

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19 **SECTION FOUR. EFFECTIVE DATE**

20 This Action shall become effective pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §301, and 2 N.N.C. §221(C).  
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# 25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council Budget and Finance Committee Priorities

## OVERALL PRIORITIES:

- Procurement Reform
- Appropriation Reform
- Prioritize funding based on ROI
- Eliminate earmarks
- Identify and Act Upon Revenue Streams



## GOALS:

### Short-term goals:

- Moratorium on spending until government priorities are established
- 105(l) Lease Task Force
- Address Navajo Nation Water Management contracts, capacity, and buildings

### Monthly goals:

- Navajo Nation financial reporting

### Quarterly goals:

- Navajo Nation reports on external funding (State and federal)
- OOC: Revenue Projections

### Bi-Annual goals:

- Identify new external funding for the Navajo Nation (State and federal)

### Annual goals:

- Lower fringe benefit rates
- Navajo Nation budget

## Year 1 goals:

Theme: Procurement Reformation and ARPA Expenditures

(By December 2023)

- Reform the Navajo Nation Procurement Code
- Research Methods for Simplifying the Navajo Nation Budgeting Cycle
- Spend and consider reallocation of ARPA, PTF, Sih Hasin Dollars

## Year 2 goals:

Theme: Procurement Reformation and Budgeting Reformation

(By December 2024)

*NOTE: FRF incumbrance deadline: December 31, 2024*

- Reform the Navajo Nation Procurement Code
- Reform Navajo Nation Appropriations Process: Two-Year Budgeting Cycle
- Reform Navajo Nation Appropriation Process: Simplify Budgeting Cycle
- Develop a new 5-Year PTF plan

## Year 3 goals:

Theme: Navajo Nation Investments

(By December 2025)

- Develop fund for Navajo Nation Public Safety
- Develop bonds for Navajo Roads
- Develop direct investment for Housing
- Pass a new 5-Year PTF plan

**Year 4 goals:**

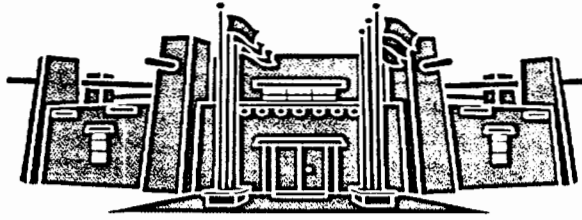
Theme: The Future of the Navajo Nation – Investments, Procurement, Budgeting  
(By December 2026)

*NOTE: FRF period ends December 31, 2026*

- Navajo Nation Banking options
- Navajo Nation Investment Manager options
- Navajo Nation Financial Officer options
- Navajo Nation Money Manager options

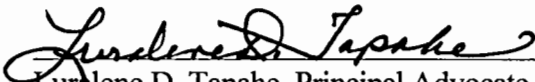
**IDENTIFIED NEEDS:**

- Hire professional support to assist BFC
- Hire professional support to assist OMB and OOC
- Hire professional support to assist DCD
- Hire professional support for FRF



## MEMORANDUM

To: Hon. Shaandiin Parrish, Chair  
Budget and Finance Committee  
25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council

From:   
Luralene D. Tapahe, Principal Advocate  
Office of Legislative Counsel

Date: May 23, 2023

Subject: **AN ACTION RELATING TO THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE;  
APPROVING AND ESTABLISHING THE COMMITTEE'S PRIORITIES FOR  
THE FOUR-YEAR TERM OF THE 25<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL**

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The Office of Legislative Counsel has prepared the above-referenced proposed legislation and related summary sheet. Based on existing Navajo Nation law and other applicable laws, and upon review of all supporting documents regarding your request that were submitted to OLC, this legislation as drafted is legally sufficient. However, as with any action of government, this legislation may be subject to judicial review in the event of a legal challenge.

**Please review this legislation to make sure it is drafted to your satisfaction, and that all necessary and appropriate supporting documents have been provided and all attached Exhibits are correct.**

OLC has reviewed the appropriate standing committees' authorities to consider this legislation, based on the standing committees' powers and responsibilities set forth in Title 2 of the Navajo Nation Code. Based on its review, OLC has listed those committees in the title of this legislation. However, the Speaker may assign this legislation to any committee(s) other than those shown in the title, pursuant to his authority under 2 N.N.C. §164(A)(5).

If you find anything unacceptable, please let me know immediately and advise me of your desired changes. I can be reached at phone no. (928)871-7166 or by email at: [LuraleneTapahe@navajo-nsn.gov](mailto:LuraleneTapahe@navajo-nsn.gov)

Thank you for your cooperation.