

RESOLUTION OF THE  
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL  
24<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - SECOND YEAR, 2020

AN ACT

RELATING TO LAW AND ORDER, HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES, NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; AMENDING LEGISLATION CO-64-17 "DECLARING THE SECOND FRIDAY IN MAY TO BE KNOWN AS 'NAVAJO POLICE OFFICER DAY' WITHIN THE NAVAJO NATION

BE IT ENACTED:

**SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY**

- A. The Law and Order Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 601 (B)(5)(b), may review and make recommendations to the Navajo Nation Council for final approval resolutions that accomplish or impact the Committee purposes.
- B. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is empowered to review and recommend resolutions relating to employment. 2 N.N.C. § 401 (B)(6)(a)
- C. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 164 (A) (9), the committee reviews proposed legislation which requires final action by the Navajo Nation Council.
- D. The Navajo Nation Council enacts laws and sets policy for the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 102.

**SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

- A. The Navajo Nation approved Resolution CO-64-17 "Declaring the Second Friday in May to Be Known as 'Navajo Police Officer Day' Within the Navajo Nation". See **Exhibit A**.
- B. Resolution CO-64-17 established Navajo Police Officer Day as a paid holiday. See **Exhibit A**, at Section Four; Personnel Policies Manual.
- C. The Navajo Nation Council finds it to be in the best interest of the Navajo Nation to amend CO-64-17 to provide for Navajo Police Officer Day to be an observed day, as distinguished from a paid holiday.

- D. The Navajo Nation Council finds it to be in the best interest of the Navajo Nation to further amend CO-64-17 to provide up to four (4) hours administrative leave to employees to attend Navajo Nation Police Officer Day events held on the Navajo Nation.

### SECTION THREE. AMENDING CO-64-17

The Navajo Nation Council hereby amends Resolution CO-64-17, Section Four. Personnel Policies Manual as follows:

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\* \* \* \*

#### SECTION FOUR. PERSONNEL POLICIES MANUAL

~~This declaration shall be added to the Navajo Nation Personnel Policies Manual, Section IX, Employee Benefits, para. B, and Paid Holidays.~~ The Human Resources Department shall incorporate such provision in the next published Personnel Policies Manual if necessary and appropriate.

\* \* \* \*

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### SECTION FOUR. EFFECTIVE DATE

The provisions of this Act shall become effective pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §§ 221(C).

### CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by 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 19 in Favor, and 02 Opposed, on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of July 2020.



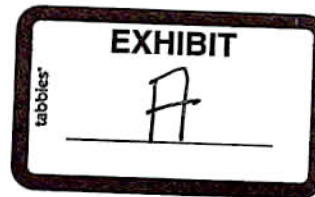
Honorable Seth Damon, Speaker  
24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council

July 2, 2020

DATE

Motion: Honorable Jamie Henio  
Second: Honorable Jimmy Yellowhair

Speaker Seth Damon not voting



CO-64-17

RESOLUTION OF THE  
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

23<sup>RD</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- Third Year, 2017

AN ACTION

RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES, NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; DECLARING THE SECOND FRIDAY IN MAY TO BE KNOWN AS "NAVAJO POLICE OFFICER DAY" WITHIN THE NAVAJO NATION

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Law and Order Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with oversight authority over the Navajo Division of Public Safety, the Navajo Nation Police Department is under the Navajo Division of Public Safety. 2 N.N.C. § 601(C)(1).
- B. The Navajo Nation Council established the Health, Education and Human Services ("HEHS") Committee as a standing committee with the purpose to oversee the Division of Human Resources. 2 N.N.C. §§ 400(A), 401(C)(1) and 164(A)(9).
- C. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee possess power to establish Navajo Nation policy, promulgate rules and regulations governing the Navajo Nation's human services. 2 N.N.C. § 401(B)(1).
- D. Proposed resolutions requiring final action by the Navajo Nation Council shall be assigned to the Naabik'íyáti' Committee. 2 N.N.C. § 164(A)(9).
- E. The Navajo Nation Council is the Navajo Nation's governing body. 2 N.N.C. § 102(A).

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- A. Diné Customary Law declares and teaches that it is the right and freedom of the people that every child and every elder be respected and protected, free from all abuse. 1 N.N.C. § 203(E).



- B. On August 6, 1959, the Navajo Nation Council passed Resolution CAU-50-59, which created the Navajo Division of Public Safety (NDPS) which included "Police." This was implemented in the 1960 Navajo Nation Budget.
- C. In 1970, the NDPS was placed under the supervision of the Chairperson of the Navajo Tribal Council. In 1971, the NDPS was placed under the Office of Administration. In 1974, the Navajo Tribal Council created a Division of Law Enforcement and removed it from under the Office of Administration. In 1976, the Police Department was changed to the Office of Law Enforcement. In July 24, 1981 the Navajo Nation Council established the current NDPS through Resolution ACJY-89-81. 2 N.N.C. §§ 1351-1352.
- D. The Navajo Nation Police Department (NNPD) is comprised of seven police districts, along with a headquarters and training/recruitment division. Document provided by the Navajo Nation Washington Office is attached as **Exhibit A**.
- E. The NNPD provides law enforcement services for the entire Navajo Nation twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, 365 days a year, excluding Ramah Navajo. *Id.*
- F. The NNPD currently has a total of 239 commissioned law enforcement officers, 199 patrol officers, thirty-five (35) criminal investigators, five (5) internal investigators and forty (40) dispatchers. *Id.*
- G. The 239 commissioned officers patrol the Navajo Nation which is over 27,000 square miles approximately the size of West Virginia. *Id.*
- H. There are over 330,000 enrolled members with 173,667 members residing within the Navajo Nation - with a ratio of 12.5 officers per 10,000 Navajo members. *Id.*
- I. In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation designating May 15<sup>th</sup> as "Peace Officers Memorial Day" and the week as "Police Week" where tens of thousands of law enforcement officers from around the world converge in Washington, D.C. to participate in a number of planned events which honor those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice. See <http://policeweek.org/>.
- J. The Law Enforcement Memorial week is always the seven-day period commemorating fallen officers. Many states also pay

tribute to fallen officers during National Police Week. In 2012 the State of New Mexico unveiled the New Mexico Law Enforcement Memorial webpage. See <http://www.nmlememorial.org/>.

- K. There are thirteen (13) fallen officers from the NDPS listed on the Officer Down Memorial Page, remembering all of law enforcement's heroes. The thirteen (13) fallen officers are attached as **Exhibit B**. See <http://www.odmp.org/>.

At Exhibit B, have a new Section created to acknowledge Fallen Navajo Nation Police Officers; There should be a fund established to assist these families; and at Exhibit B, to include the Badge Number(s) and other pertinent information of Fallen Navajo Nation Police Officers.

- L. It would be appropriate for the Navajo People to set aside a day in May to pay tribute to fallen officers and recognize Navajo Nation Police Officers who work on behalf of the Navajo People.

### **SECTION THREE. DECLARATION**

The Navajo Nation hereby declares the second Friday of May to be observed as the "Navajo Nation Police Officer Day."

### **SECTION FOUR. PERSONNEL POLICIES MANUAL**

This declaration shall be added to the Navajo Nation Personnel Policies Manual, section IX, Employee Benefits, para. B, and Paid Holidays. The Human Resources Department shall incorporate such provision in the next published Personnel Policies Manual.

### **SECTION FIVE. EFFECTIVE DATE**

This declaration shall become effective in accordance with 2 N.N.C. § 221(C).

**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 14 in favor and 00 opposed, this 17<sup>TH</sup> day of October 2017.



LoRenzo C. Bates, Speaker  
Navajo Nation Council

10-27-17

Date

Motion: Honorable Steven Begay  
Second: Honorable Nelson S. BeGaye

Speaker Bates not voting

# NAVAJO NATION

354

7/1/2020

Navajo Nation Council Special Session

03:22:58 PM

Amd# to Amd#

Consent Agenda: Legislation

PASSED

MOT Henio, J

0286-19 and Legislation 0119-20

SEC Yellowhair

Yeas : 19

Nays : 2

Excused : 0

Not Voting : 2

## Yea : 19

Begay, E

Crotty

Nez, R

Walker, T

Begay, K

Daniels

Smith

Wauneka, E

Begay, P

Freeland, M

Tso

Yazzie

Brown

Halona, P

Tso, D

Yellowhair

Charles-Newton

Henio, J

Tso, E

## Nay : 2

Stewart, W

Slater, C

## Excused : 0

## Not Voting : 2

James, V

Tso, C

Presiding Speaker: Damon