

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

AN ACTION
RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES AND
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI'; SUPPORTING THE BOARD OF REGENTS, NAVAJO TECHNICAL
UNIVERSITY, FOR CONTINUED FUNDING UNDER THE STRENGTHENING
INSTITUTION PROGRAM OF THE HEALTH EDUCATION ACT AS ENACTED THROUGH
PUBLIC LAW 111-152. Title III. Part F.

WHEREAS:

- A. The Navajo Nation established the Health, Education and Human Services Committee as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee. 2 N.N.C. §400. The committee's responsibilities include overseeing the Department of Diné Education, and reviewing and recommending resolutions on educational services provided to the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 401(B)(6)(a) and (C)(1).
- B. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 401(B)(7)(a), the Health, Education and Human Services Committee represents the Navajo Nation "at local, state and federal levels, in coordination with the President of the Navajo Nation and the Naabik'íyáti' Committee on proposed legislation, funding and other actions affecting health, environmental health, social services, education, veterans services, employment, training and labor."
- C. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee is established as a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. § 700(A). Among its duties and responsibilities, the committee "review[s] and continually monitor[s] the programs and activities of federal and state departments and ... assist[s] development of such programs designed to serve the Navajo People and the Navajo Nation through intergovernmental relationships between the Navajo Nation and such departments." 2 N.N.C. § 701(A)(7).
- D. The *Strengthening Institutions Program* (SIP) of the federal *Higher Education Act* provides funding to support institutions of higher education to help them become self-sufficient and expand their capacity to serve low-income students by providing funds to improve and strengthen the institution's academic quality, institutional management, and fiscal stability. P.L. 111-152, *Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010*, Title III, Part F (commonly referred to as the *Higher Education*

Act). Institutions of higher education, such as the Navajo Technical University within the Navajo Nation, rely on funding provided through SIP. See attached Exhibit "A," resolution of the Board of Regents, no. NTU-APR-1729-19, Navajo Technical University. For Navajo Technical University, funding under the program is essential for purposes of increasing self-sufficiency and providing innovative and critically needed services for students. Further, funding is crucial for student retention and achieving completion rates, meeting or exceeding national averages, as well as strengthening institutional management and fiscal stability. *Id.*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Navajo Nation supports the Board of Regents for the Navajo Technical University in seeking from Congress and the President of the United States continued funding under the *Strengthening Institutions Program* of the federal *Higher Education Act* as enacted by Public Law 111-152. Title III. Part F. See Exhibit "A," hereof. The Navajo Nation supports the board in seeking support for strengthening the essential program.

CERTIFICATION

I, hereby, certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the 24th 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 5th day of September 2019.



Honorable Seth Damon, Chairman
Naabik'íyáti' Committee

Motion: Honorable Raymond Smith, Jr.
Second: Honorable Paul Begay

Chairman Seth Damon not voting

**RESOLUTION OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS OF
NAVAJO TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY**

Requesting that the United States Congress and President of the United States continue to fund the U.S. Department of Education's Strengthening Institutions- Part F program for a tribal colleges and universities

WHEREAS:

1. The Board of Regents of the Navajo Technical University is responsible for the administration, operations and the development of policy as stated in Navajo Nation Council Resolution CO-58-16, enacted on November 10, 2016, that amended the University's enabling legislation, codified at 15 N.N.C. §§1201-1210; and
2. Pursuant to the University's enabling legislation, Navajo Technical University (NTU) is organized as an institution of higher learning for the primary purpose of providing post-secondary and postgraduate education programs that serve both the academic and vocational/technical needs of the Navajo Nation and its citizens, 15 N.N.C. §1203(A); and
3. The tribal colleges and universities have been among the poorest funded institutions of higher learning in the United States; and
4. Mandatory funding from the U.S. Department of Education's Strengthening Institution's-Part F program (also known as Higher Education Act, Title III-Part F) has been an essential funding source that has helped Navajo Technical University strengthen its higher learning programs, expand vitally needed student support services, and create new opportunities for Navajo students to complete important career education goals and join the workforce throughout the Navajo Nation, which is located in three states: New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah; and
5. The purpose of the Strengthening Institutions Part F program, as approved by the Congress of the United States through the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (HCERA; P.L. 111-152) is to help eligible institutions of higher education increase their self-sufficiency by providing funds to improve and strengthen the academic quality, institutional management, and fiscal stability of eligible institutions, and
6. Receiving this funding is essential to the ability of Navajo Technical University to increase its self-sufficiency; provide innovate and critically needed services to students; continue to excel in achieving student retention and completion rates that meet or exceed national averages; and strengthen its institutional management and fiscal stability; and
7. The loss of such funding would drastically impede the future operations of Navajo Technical University, severely and permanently harming its ability to serve its substantial student body and the Navajo people.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Board of Regents of the Navajo Technical University hereby strongly urges and requests that the Congress and President of the United States continue to support and strengthen the U.S. Department of Education's Strengthening Institution's-Part F program (also known as Higher Education Act, Title III-Part F), which is essential to the future of all tribal colleges and universities.

2. The President of the Navajo Technical University is hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to effectuate the purpose of this resolution.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby confirm that this resolution was discussed and considered by the Board of Regents of Navajo Technical University at a duly called meeting in Chinle, Arizona at which a quorum was present, and that this resolution was passed by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstained, this 26th day of April 2019.



Tom Platero, Chairperson
NTU Board of Regents

NAVAJO NATION

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Naa'bik'iyati Committee Meeting

9/5/2019

05:58:48 PM

Amd# to Amd#	Legislation 0244-19: Supporting	PASSED
MOT Smith	the Board of Regents, Navajo	
SEC Begay, P	Technical University....	

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