

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0119-20

DATE: May 6, 2020

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION; AN ACTION RELATING TO THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; CANCELLING THE NAVAJO NATION FAIR, THE FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION, THE NORTHERN NAVAJO NATION FAIR, AND ALL THE OTHER FAIRS, RODEOS AND ROPINGS HELD ON THE NAVAJO NATION DURING 2020

PURPOSE: The purpose of this legislation is to cancel the Fourth of July Celebration, the Navajo Nation Fair, the Kayenta 4th of July Rodeo, Eastern Navajo Fair, the Ramah Navajo Fair and Rodeo, Naatsis'áán E'eaniih Day Celebration, Southwest Navajo Fair and Rodeo, Central Agency Fair, Utah Navajo Fair and Rodeo, Northern Navajo Fair, Alamo Indian Days, the Western Navajo Fair, and any other fairs, rodeos and roping events that would ordinarily be held on the Navajo Nation during 2020. The need to cancel these events is because of the Public Declaration of Health Emergency due to the COVID-19 virus. The fairs, rodeos and roping events are large gatherings of people and could expose large numbers of people to COVID-19.

This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committees. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each Council Delegate to review each proposed resolution in detail.

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: high
Website Posting Time/Date: 6:58pm 05-14-20
Posting End Date: 05-19-20
Eligible for Action: 05-20-20

Resources & Development Committee

Thence

Health Education & Human Services Committee

Thence

Naabik'iyáti' Committee

Thence

Navajo Nation Council

PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION
24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – Second Year, 2020

INTRODUCED BY


(Prime Sponsor)

TRACKING NO. 0119-20

AN ACTION

RELATING TO THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE,
THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, THE
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL;
CANCELLING THE NAVAJO NATION FAIR, THE FOURTH OF JULY
CELEBRATION, THE NORTHERN NAVAJO NATION FAIR, AND ALL THE
OTHER FAIRS, RODEOS AND ROPINGS HELD ON THE NAVAJO NATION
DURING 2020

BE IT ENACTED:

Section One. Authority

- A. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing of body of the Navajo Nation. 2
N.N.C. § 102(A).
- B. The Navajo Nation Council established the Naabik'iyáti' Committee as a Navajo
Nation Council standing committee. Proposed resolutions requiring the final
authority of the Navajo Nation Council are to be assigned to the Naabik'iyáti'
Committee. 2 N.N.C. § 164 (A) (9).

1 C. The Health, Education, and Human Services Committee is a Navajo Nation
2 Council standing committee established to review and make recommendations
3 regarding health. 2 N.N.C. § 401 (B) (6) (a).

4 D. The Resources and Development Committee is the oversight committee of the
5 Navajo Department of Agriculture which plans and puts on the Fourth of July
6 Celebration and the Navajo Nation Fair, RDCJY-032-19; and the Resources and
7 Development Committee, through RDCAU-81-12, by amending the Northern
8 Navajo Fair Board Plan of Operation, “establish[ed], creat[ed], and confirm[ed]
9 the existence of the Northern Navajo Nation Fair Board ... as an entity of the
10 Navajo Nation and the Northern Navajo Nation Agency Council.”
11

12 **Section Two. Findings**

13 A. The Navajo Nation Commission on Emergency Management, with the
14 concurrence of the President and Vice President of the Navajo Nation, approved
15 Resolution CEM-20-03-11, “Declaring a Public Health State of Emergency for
16 the Navajo Nation due to the Confirmation of the Coronavirus Disease
17 (“COVID-19”) in Regional Areas Surrounding the Navajo Nation,” dated March
18 11, 2020.

19 B. The Navajo Nation President issued Executive Order 003-20 on April 21, 2020
20 extending the Declaration of a State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 virus
21 on the Navajo Nation and extending the closure of Navajo Nation government
22 offices and related entities.

23 C. The Navajo Nation has taken strong, proactive measures to reduce the spread of
24 COVID-19 including issuing stay at home orders as well as implementing
25 evening and weekend curfews. Public Health Emergency Orders No. 2020-003
26 (issuing a Stay at Home order) and 2020-004 (extending the Stay at Home order
27 and implementing a curfew).

28 D. Public Health Emergency Order No. 2020-004 also stated that “[a]ll indoor and
29 outdoor public gatherings are limited to no more than 5 people[.]
30

- 1 E. "The Navajo Department of Health recognized that "[e]very individual has a
2 responsibility to themselves, to their families and relatives, and to their
3 communities to act in accordance with this Public Health Emergency Order No.
4 2020-004." See Public Health Emergency Order 2020-004, Paragraph VII.
- 5 F. The Navajo Department of Health extended the weekend curfew in effect on the
6 Navajo Nation and ordered the closure of certain essential businesses on the
7 Navajo Nation. See Public Health Emergency Order Nos. 2020-005, 2020-006,
8 and 2020-008.
- 9 G. The Fourth of July Celebration which takes place during and around July Fourth
10 of each year and the Navajo Nation Fair held in September both take place in
11 Window Rock, Arizona and both have high attendance over multiple days.
- 12 H. There are other Navajo fairs including the Kayenta 4th of July Rodeo, Eastern
13 Navajo Fair (Crownpoint) held in July, the Ramah Navajo Fair and Rodeo (Pine
14 Hill) held in August, Naatsis'áán E'eaniih Day Celebration (Navajo Mountain)
15 held in August, Southwest Navajo Fair and Rodeo (Dilkon) held in August,
16 Central Agency Fair (Chinle) held in August, Utah Navajo Fair and Rodeo
17 (Bluff) held in September, Northern Navajo Fair (Shiprock) held in October,
18 Alamo Indian Days held in October, and the Western Navajo Fair (Tuba City)
19 held in October.
- 20 I. There are also numerous smaller rodeos and roping events that would ordinarily
21 be held on the Navajo Nation during the spring, summer and fall of 2020.
- 22 J. Large numbers of the Navajo population attend these fairs, rodeos and roping
23 events.
- 24 K. The Navajo Nation Council finds that due to the highly contagious nature of
25 COVID-19, Dikos Ntsaaígíí Náhást'éíts'áadah, and the need to prevent spread
26 of the virus and to protect our Navajo people from being infected by this virus,
27 it is necessary to cancel all the fairs, rodeos and roping events that would
28 ordinarily held on the Navajo Nation during 2020.
- 29
30

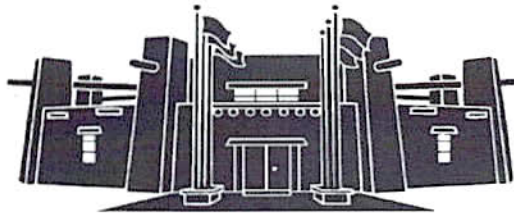
1 **Section Three. Cancelling all fairs, rodeos and roping events that would**
2 **ordinarily be held on the Navajo Nation in 2020**

3 The Navajo Nation hereby cancels the Fourth of July Celebration, the Navajo
4 Nation Fair, the Kayenta 4th of July Rodeo, Eastern Navajo Fair, the Ramah
5 Navajo Fair and Rodeo, Naatsis'áán E'eaniih Day Celebration, Southwest
6 Navajo Fair and Rodeo, Central Agency Fair, Utah Navajo Fair and Rodeo,
7 Northern Navajo Fair, Alamo Indian Days, the Western Navajo Fair, and any
8 other fairs, rodeos and roping events that would ordinarily be held on the Navajo
9 Nation during 2020.

10
11 **Section Four. Effective Date**

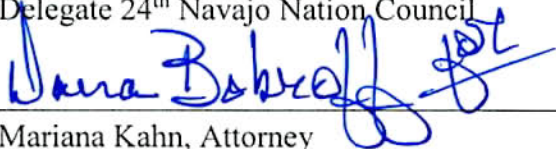
12 A. The provisions of this Action shall become effective pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 221
13 (B).

14 B. The provisions of this Action shall expire when Resolution CEM-20-03-11,
15 “Declaring a Public Health State of Emergency for the Navajo Nation due to the
16 Confirmation of the Coronavirus Disease (“COVID-19”) in Regional Areas
17 Surrounding the Navajo Nation,” dated March 11, 2020, is lifted or rescinded or
18 until otherwise determined by resolution of the Navajo Nation Council.



MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Eugenia Charles-Newton
Delegate 24th Navajo Nation Council

FROM: 
Mariana Kahn, Attorney
Office of Legislative Counsel

DATE: May 6, 2020

SUBJECT: PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION; AN ACTION
RELATING TO THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE,
THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE,
THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE AND THE NAVAJO NATION
COUNCIL; CANCELLING THE NAVAJO NATION FAIR, THE FOURTH
OF JULY CELEBRATION, THE NORTHERN NAVAJO NATION FAIR,
AND ALL THE OTHER FAIRS, RODEOS AND ROPINGS HELD ON THE
NAVAJO NATION DURING 2020

I have prepared the above-referenced proposed pursuant to your request for legislative drafting. Based on existing law and review of documents submitted, the resolution as drafted is legally sufficient. As with any action of government however, it can be subject to review by the courts in the event of proper challenge. Please ensure that his particular resolution request is precisely what you want.

The Office of Legislative Counsel confirms the appropriate standing committee(s) based on the standing committees powers outlined in 2 N.N.C. §§301, 401, 501, 601 and 701. Nevertheless, "the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council shall introduce [the proposed resolution] into the legislative process by assigning it to the respective oversight committee(s) of the Navajo Nation Council having authority over the matters for proper consideration." 2 N.N.C. §164(A)(5).

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0119-20_

SPONSOR: Eugenia Charles-Newton

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Resources and Development Committee, the Health, Education and Human Services Committee, the Naabik'iváti' Committee and the Navajo Nation Council; Cancelling the Navajo Nation Fair, the Fourth of July Celebration, the Northern Navajo Nation Fair, and all the other fairs, rodeos and ropings held on the Navajo Nation during 2020

Date posted: May 14, 2020 at 6:58PM

Digital comments may be e-mailed to comments@navajo-nsn.gov

Written comments may be mailed to:

Executive Director
Office of Legislative Services
P.O. Box 3390
Window Rock, AZ 86515
(928) 871-7586

Comments may be made in the form of chapter resolutions, letters, position papers, etc. Please include your name, position title, address for written comments; a valid e-mail address is required. Anonymous comments will not be included in the Legislation packet.

Please note: This digital copy is being provided for the benefit of the Navajo Nation chapters and public use. Any political use is prohibited. All written comments received become the property of the Navajo Nation and will be forwarded to the assigned Navajo Nation Council standing committee(s) and/or the Navajo Nation Council for review. Any tampering with public records are punishable by Navajo Nation law pursuant to 17 N.N.C. §374 *et. seq.*