

## **LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET**

**Tracking No.** 0/29-23

**DATE:** June 23, 2023

**TITLE OF RESOLUTION:** AN ACT RELATING TO THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES, LAW AND ORDER, BUDGET AND FINANCE, AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; REPEALING 9 N.N.C. § 2(C) OF THE DINÉ MARRIAGE ACT OF 2005, TO UNIFORMLY RECOGNIZE ALL MARRIAGES WITHIN THE NAVAJO NATION; AND AMENDING OTHER PROVISIONS IN TITLE 9 OF THE NAVAJO NATION CODE RELATED TO MARRIAGE WITHIN THE NAVAJO NATION

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this legislation is to amend the Navajo Nation Code so that same sex marriages executed in other jurisdictions are recognized within the Navajo Nation.

**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 YJV  
Website Posting Time/Date 5:31 pm; 06-23-23  
Posting End Date: 06-28-23  
Eligible for Action: 06-29-23

Health Education & Human Services Committee  
Thence  
Law & Order Committee  
Thence  
Budget & Finance Committee  
Thence  
Naabik'iyáti' Committee  
Thence  
Navajo Nation Council

PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION  
25<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – First Year, 2023

INTRODUCED BY



(Prime Sponsor)



TRACKING NO. 0139-23

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES,  
LAW AND ORDER, BUDGET AND FINANCE, AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI'  
COMMITTEES AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; REPEALING  
9 N.N.C. § 2(C) OF THE DINÉ MARRIAGE ACT OF 2005, TO UNIFORMLY  
RECOGNIZE ALL MARRIAGES WITHIN THE NAVAJO NATION; AND  
AMENDING OTHER PROVISIONS IN TITLE 9 OF THE NAVAJO NATION  
CODE RELATED TO MARRIAGE WITHIN THE NAVAJO NATION

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITIES

- A. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 102(A).
- B. The Naabik'iyáti' Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council empowered to review proposed legislation which requires final action by the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. §§ 700(A), 164(A)(9).
- C. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council empowered [t]o establish Navajo Nation policy, promulgate rules and regulations governing health, social services, education, human services and

1 general government services of the Navajo Nation and its tribal organizations, entities,  
2 and enterprises. 2 N.N.C. §§ 400(A), 401(B)(1).

3 D. The Law and Order Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council  
4 empowered [t]o review and make recommendations to the Navajo Nation Council on  
5 proposed amendments to and enactments in the Navajo Nation Code. 2 N.N.C. §§  
6 600(A), 601(B)(14).

7 E. The Budget and Finance Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation  
8 Council empowered to [t]o promulgate policies and regulations concerning wages,  
9 expenditure reimbursement, and fringe benefits for Navajo Nation officials and  
10 employees. 2 N.N.C. §§ 300(A), 301(B)(8).

## 11 12 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

13 A. Over the past century, the Navajo Nation Council, as the Navajo Nation's governing  
14 body, has exercised the Navajo Nation's inherent sovereign power to establish statutory  
15 laws and regulations relating to domestic relations within the Navajo Nation, including  
16 CJ-2-40, CJL-3-44, CF-2-54, CJ-42-56, CO-54-56, CAP-3-93, and CAP-29-05/CJN-  
17 34-05.

18 B. In 2005, the 20<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council enacted Resolution No. CJN-34-05 which  
19 provided that, "[m]arriage between persons of the same sex is void and prohibited". 9  
20 N.N.C. § 2(C). Almost twenty years later, the 25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council recognizes  
21 that the prohibition against same sex marriage does not uniformly welcome or support  
22 the well- being of *all* Diné.

23 C. The purpose of this legislation is to repeal 9 N.N.C. § 2(C) of the Diné Marriage Act  
24 of 2005 to ensure that all Diné are welcome within the four sacred mountains and to  
25 uniformly recognize all marriages within the Navajo Nation. This legislation also  
26 amends other provisions within the Navajo Nation Code to conform with this repeal:  
27 9 N.N.C. § 4(E)—Common Law Marriage, 9 N.N.C § 7—Marriage License, and 9  
28 N.N.C. § 201 et. seq.

29 D. Through this legislation, the Navajo Nation will exercise its inherent sovereign power  
30 in regulating domestic relations by repealing 9 N.N.C. § 2(C) which provides,

1        “[m]arriage between persons of the same sex is void and prohibited.” The Diné  
2        Marriage Act of 2005 explicitly excluded and prohibited members of the same-sex  
3        from marrying. This legislation also amends other necessary provisions within the  
4        Navajo Nation Code to conform with this repeal.

5        E. Although this legislation repeals the prohibition against same-sex marriage at 9 N.N.C.  
6        § 2(C), the method for a traditional Navajo wedding ceremony outlined at 9 N.N.C §  
7        4(D) involving a man and a woman shall remain unchanged. Traditional Navajo society  
8        places a great importance upon the institution of marriage and believes that the  
9        elaborate ritual of marrying using the traditional method is believed to be blessed by  
10       the “Holy People.” This blessing ensures that the marriage will be stable, in harmony,  
11       and perpetual. *Navajo Nation v. Murphy*, 6 Nav. R. 10, 13 (1988); *See also Begay v.*  
12       *Chief*, No. SC-CV-08-3, 8 Nav. R. 654 (2005), which provides that common law-  
13       marriage under Navajo Nation Code is different than one arising out of traditional  
14       wedding ceremony. Keeping the traditional Navajo wedding the same will not prohibit  
15       nor deny same-sex marriage because there are other methods available for marrying  
16       under 9 N.N.C § 4.

17       F. The Navajo Nation also recognizes that in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, the Supreme Court of  
18       the United States ruled that “[t]he right to marry is a fundamental right inherent in the  
19       liberty of the person, and under the Due Process and Equal Protection Clauses of the  
20       Fourteenth Amendment, couples of the same sex may not be deprived of that right and  
21       that liberty.” *Obergefell v. Hodges*, 135 S.Ct. 2584, 2591 (2015). The Navajo Nation  
22       understands that it has inherent powers to govern domestic relations and is not bound  
23       by the decision in *Obergefell v. Hodges*. *See also Talton v. Mayes*, 163 U.S. 376 (1896).  
24       However, the Navajo Nation, through this legislation, is uniformly recognizing all  
25       marriages for any tribal member to marry any person of their choice within the Navajo  
26       Nation.

27       G. The Navajo Nation further recognizes that Navajo society accepted multi-gendered  
28       individuals prior to European arrival. European religious influence viewed  
29       homosexuality as an intolerable sin. As a result, acceptance of the lesbian, gay, bisexual,  
30

transgender, questioning/queer, two-spirit (LGBTQ+) declined within tribal nations. Today, many tribal nations have repealed same-sex prohibition laws.

H. The Navajo Nation passed Resolution No. NABIS-50-19 supporting the U.S. Congress to enact Senate Bill 788, "Equality Act." The Equality Act will amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964, to expand and clarify the protections and remedies against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, and sex in the areas of employment, housing, public, accommodations, public education, federal funding, credit, and the jury system.

I. The 24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council also passed Resolution No. CJY-63-20 which established Diné Pride Week to be held every third week in June as a recurring event. Through CJY-63-20, the Navajo Nation proclaimed that the "Nation will continue to protect its citizens from discrimination based on age, race, disability, ethnicity, family or marital status, gender identity or expression, languages, national origin, physical and mental ability, religion, sexual orientation, veteran status and other characteristics that make our citizens unique under the law."

J. Data has also shown that LGBTQ+ members experience higher rates of workplace discrimination and non-acceptance from family members which leads to increased substance abuse and suicide attempts as well as other mental health effects. Further data shows, providing support for LGBTQ+ decreases the negative effect and promotes self-identity. NCAI Policy Research Center, A Spotlight on Two Spirit (Native LGBT) Communities, Accessed on March 18, 2022. Weblink available at: [https://www.ncai.org/policy-research-center/research-data/prc-publications/A\\_Spotlight\\_on\\_Native\\_LGBT.pdf](https://www.ncai.org/policy-research-center/research-data/prc-publications/A_Spotlight_on_Native_LGBT.pdf)

K. Navajo culture from time of immemorial express oral stories about multiple gendered people. Multiple gendered people have always been acknowledged and have also played important roles in our history.

L. In 2005, the sponsor of the Diné Marriage Act of 2005 expressed that its purpose was to "promote strong families and strong family values, not discriminate." This repeal will also ensure same-sex couples are included and recognized in promoting strong families through adoption if the same-sex couple decide to adopt. Additionally, the Naabik'íyáti'

1 Committee of the 24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council passed Resolution No. NABIMY-14-22 to bring  
2 awareness of Navajo foster children being placed in foster care across tribal communities and the  
3 United States. Resolution No. NABIMY-14-22 also brought awareness that there is a need for  
4 more Navajo foster parents.

- 5 M. The Navajo Nation finds it to be in the best interest of the Navajo Nation and the Navajo  
6 People to repeal 9 N.N.C. § 2(C) so that all persons can enjoy the full benefits of legal  
7 recognition of their marriages within the Navajo Nation, whether our relatives are  
8 heterosexual, homosexual, bisexual, transgender, non-gender specific, two-spirit,  
9 nadleeh.

10  
11 **SECTION THREE. REPEALING 9 N.N.C. § 2(C) OF THE DINÉ MARRIAGE ACT**  
12 **OF 2005**

13 The Navajo Nation hereby amends 9 N.N.C. § 2(C) as set forth below.

14  
15  
16 **Title 9. Domestic Relations**  
17 **Chapter 1. Marriage**

18 \*\*\*\*

19 **§ 2. Plural marriages void**

- 20 A. All plural marriages contracted, whether or not in accordance with Navajo custom, shall  
21 be void and prohibited.  
22 B. Marriage between parents and children, including grandparents and grandchildren of  
23 every degree, between brothers and sisters of one-half degree, as well as whole blood,  
24 and between uncles and nieces, aunts and nephews and between first cousins, is  
25 prohibited and void.  
26 ~~C. Marriage between persons of the same sex is void and prohibited.~~

27 \*\*\*\*

1 **SECTION FOUR. AMENDING, 9 N.N.C. § 4(E), COMMON-LAW MARRIAGE**  
2 **CRITERIA**

3 The Navajo Nation hereby amends 9 N.N.C. §4(E) as follows:

4 \_\_\_\_\_  
5  
6 **Title 9. Domestic Relations**

7 **Chapter 1. Marriage**

8 \*\*\*\*

9 **§ 4. Methods of contracting marriage**

10 A marriage may be contracted within the Navajo nation by any of the following procedures:

11 \*\*\*\*

12 E. The contracting parties establish a common-law marriage having the following features:

- 13 1. Present intention of the parties to become spouses ~~husband and wife~~;
- 14 2. Present consent between ~~the~~ both parties to become spouses ~~husband and wife~~;
- 15 3. Actual cohabitation;
- 16 4. Actual holding out of the parties within their community to be married.

17 \*\*\*\*

18 \_\_\_\_\_  
19  
20 **SECTION FIVE. AMENDING MARRIAGE LICENSE FORM TO BE GENDER**  
21 **NEUTRAL AT 9 N.N.C. § 7**

22 The Navajo Nation hereby amends 9 N.N.C. §7 as follows:

23 \_\_\_\_\_  
24  
25 **Title 9. Domestic Relations**

26 **Chapter 1. Marriage**

27 \*\*\*\*

28 **§ 7. Form**

29 The form of Navajo Nation marriage licenses shall be substantially as follows:

30 **NAVAJO NATION**

MARRIAGE LICENSE

Authority is hereby given for the marriage of the following named persons:

Man

Woman

Name

Census Number

Residence

Age

Mother's Clan

Father's Clan

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

Title

MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE

~~I, the man named above, hereby take the woman named above for my lawful wife; and I, the woman named above, hereby take the man named above for my lawful husband.~~

I hereby certify that the ~~man and woman~~ spouses named above were married this day in a ceremony at which I officiated. (This *Paragraph may be crossed out if the parties are not married before a clergyman, medicineman, or traditionalist.*)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the presence of the witnesses whose names appear below.

Witness

Contracting party

Address of Witness

Witness

Contracting party



Address of Witness

Clergyman/Medicineman  
Traditionalist

Address of Clergyman person  
Medicineman /Traditionalist

RETURNED AND FILED FOR RECORD this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, and recorded in  
Book \_\_\_\_\_ of Marriage Licenses and Certificates on page \_\_\_\_, Number \_\_\_\_\_.

Navajo Agency Census Clerk

\*\*\*\*

**SECTION SIX. AMENDING HUSBAND AND WIFE SECTION AT 9 N.N.C. § 201 *ET. SEQ.***

The Navajo Nation hereby amends 9 N.N.C. § 201 *et. seq.* as follows:

**Title 9. Domestic Relations**

**Chapter 3. ~~Husband and Wife~~ Property Rights and Liability**

\*\*\*\*

**§ 202. Separate property—Definitions**

- A. All property, real and personal, of both spouses ~~the husband~~, owned or claimed by him or her before marriage, and that acquired afterward by gift, devise or descent, and also the increase, rents, issues and profits thereof, is his or her separate property.
- ~~B. All property, both real and personal, of the wife, owned or claimed by her before marriage, and that acquired afterward by gift, devise or descent, and also the increase, rents, issues and profits thereof, is her separate property.~~

1     ~~CB.~~ The earnings and accumulations of the ~~wife~~ spouse and the minor children in his or her  
2     custody while he or she lives separate and apart from his or her spouse ~~husband~~ are the  
3     separate property ~~of the wife~~.

4  
5     **§ 203. Liability for debts**

6     The separate property of ~~the husband or wife~~ either spouse is not liable for the debts of the  
7     other contracted before marriage or contracted after separation.

8  
9     **§ 204. Married ~~women~~ couple**

10    Married ~~women~~ couples have the sole and exclusive control of their separate property. The  
11    separate property of a married ~~woman~~ spouse is not liable for the debts or obligations of the  
12    ~~other spouse~~ husband, and it may be sold, mortgaged, conveyed or bequeathed by ~~the woman~~  
13    either spouse who owns it as if he/she were not married

14  
15    **§ 205. Community property—Definition**

16    A. All property acquired by either ~~husband or wife~~ spouse during the marriage, except that  
17    which is acquired by gift, devise or descent, or earned by ~~the wife~~ either spouse and her  
18    ~~minor children~~ while he or she lives separate and apart from his or her husband spouse, is  
19    the community property ~~of the husband and wife~~.

20    B. Separate property comingled with community property is still separate if it can be clearly  
21    traced and identified.

22    \*\*\*\*

23    **§ 207. Personal property; disposition**

24    During ~~coverture~~ marriage, community personal property may be disposed of by both parties  
25    consenting ~~the husband only~~.

26  
27    **§ 208. Liability for community debts**

28    The community property of ~~the husband and wife~~ either spouse is liable for the community  
29    debts contracted by his or her spouse ~~the husband~~ during marriage unless specially excepted  
30    by law.

1       **§ 209. Legal capacity of ~~married women~~—Generally**

2       Married women of the age of ~~24~~ 18 years and upwards have the same legal rights and are  
3       subject to the same legal liabilities as men of the age of ~~24~~ 18 years and upwards ~~except the~~  
4       ~~right to make contracts binding the common property of the husband and wife.~~

5  
6       **~~§ 210. Necessaries—Power of wife to contract debts~~**

7       ~~The wife may contract debts for necessities for herself and her children upon the credit of her~~  
8       ~~husband.~~

9  
10       **§ 210. Action to collect debt; order of execution**

11       In an action to collect a debt ~~for necessities for the wife and her children, the both spouses~~  
12       ~~wife and her husband~~ shall be sued jointly and severally and the court shall decree that  
13       execution be levied first upon the ~~common~~unity property, ~~secondly upon the separate property  
14       of each spouse. ~~the husband and third upon the separate property of the wife.~~~~

15  
16       \*\*\*\*  
17       \_\_\_\_\_  
18

19       **SECTION SEVEN. DIRECTIVES**

20       All divisions, departments, programs, and offices of the Navajo Nation government shall  
21       amend their policies, including but not limited to employee benefits, to reflect and include  
22       changes set forth in this legislation within ninety (90) days after enactment of this legislation.  
23

24       **SECTION EIGHT. EFFECTIVE DATE**

25       This legislation and the Navajo Nation Code amendments enacted herein shall become  
26       effective pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 221(B).  
27

28       **SECTION NINE. CODIFICATION**

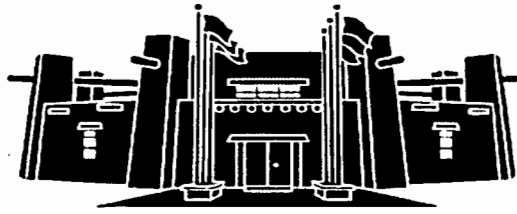
29       The provisions of this legislation which amend or adopt new sections of the Navajo Nation  
30

1 Code shall be codified by the Office of Legislative Counsel. The Office of Legislative Counsel  
2 shall incorporate such amended provisions in the next codification of the Navajo Nation Code.  
3

4 **SECTION TEN. SAVINGS CLAUSE**

5 Should any provisions of this legislation be determined invalid by the Navajo Nation Supreme  
6 Court, or the District Courts of the Navajo Nation, without appeal to the Navajo Nation  
7 Supreme Court, those portions of this legislation which are not determined invalid shall remain  
8 the law of the Navajo Nation.  
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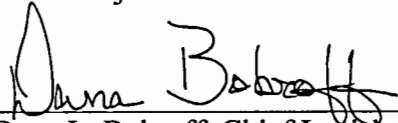
Office of Legislative Counsel  
Telephone: (928) 871-7166  
Fax No.: (928) 871-7576



Honorable Crystalyne Curley  
Speaker  
25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Hon. Seth Damon, Council Delegate  
25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council

FROM:   
Dana L. Bobroff, Chief Legislative Counsel  
Office of Legislative Counsel

DATE: June 23, 2023

SUBJECT: **AN ACT RELATING TO THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES, LAW AND ORDER, BUDGET AND FINANCE, AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; REPEALING 9 N.N.C. § 2(C) OF THE DINÉ MARRIAGE ACT OF 2005, TO UNIFORMLY RECOGNIZE ALL MARRIAGES WITHIN THE NAVAJO NATION; AND AMENDING OTHER PROVISIONS IN TITLE 9 OF THE NAVAJO NATION CODE RELATED TO MARRIAGE WITHIN THE NAVAJO NATION**

As requested, I have prepared the above-referenced proposed resolution and associated legislative summary sheet pursuant to your request for legislative drafting. The resolution drafted is legally sufficient, although, as with all legislation, challenges are possible in the courts. You are advised and encouraged to review the proposed resolution to ensure that it is drafted to your satisfaction. If you are satisfied with the proposed resolution, please sign it as "sponsor" and submit it to the Office of Legislative Services where it will be given a tracking number and sent to the Office of the Speaker for assignment. As you may be aware, the Speaker is authorized to refer this proposed resolution to other committees than those stated in the title.

If the proposed resolution is unacceptable to you, please contact me at the Office of Legislative Counsel and advise me of the changes you would like made to the proposed resolution. Ahéhee'.

THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: 0139-23

SPONSOR: Seth Damon

**TITLE: An Act Relating to the Health, Education and Human Services, Law and Order, Budget and Finance, and Naabik'iyáti' Committees and the Navajo Nation Council; Repealing 9 N.N.C. § 2(C) of the Diné Marriage Act of 2005, to Uniformly Recognize All Marriages Within the Navajo Nation; and Amending Other Provisions in Title 9 of the Navajo Nation Code Related to Marriage Within the Navajo Nation**

***Date posted:*** June 23, 2023 5:31 PM

Digital comments may be e-mailed to [comments@navajo-nsn.gov](mailto: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.*

**THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW SUMMARY**

**LEGISLATION NO.: 0139-23**

**SPONSOR: Honorable Seth Damon**

**TITLE: An Act Relating to the Health, Education and Human Services, Law and Order, Budget and Finance, and Naabik'íyáti' Committees and the Navajo Nation Council; Repealing 9 N.N.C. § 2(C) of the Diné Marriage Act of 2005, to Uniformly Recognize All Marriages Within the Navajo Nation; and Amending Other Provisions in Title 9 of the Navajo Nation Code Related to Marriage Within the Navajo Nation**

**Posted: June 23, 2023 at 5:31 PM**

**5 DAY Comment Period Ended: June 28, 2023**

**Digital Comments received:**

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Comments Supporting</b> | 1) Gevern Begay<br>2) Latisha Carr-Tague<br>3) Dillon Chavez<br>4) Caleb Lauber<br>5) Marsha Monestersky<br>6) Curtis Berry  |
| <b>Comments Opposing</b>   | 1) Cindy S. Covey<br>2) Teddy Blake<br>3) Florence Riggs<br>4) Bessie Hatathlie<br>5) Dolly Lane<br>6) Elouise Graham<br>7) April Littleman<br>8) Lena Curley<br>9) Virginia and William Lee<br>10) Sheila Yazzie<br>11) Dana Giddens<br>12) Larrisa Luther<br>13) Debbie Largo<br>14) Cindy Largo<br>15) Marita Chief<br>16) Marlene Deswood<br>17) Sophia Jones<br>18) Evelyn Martin |

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
|  | 19) Cherilyn Sells        |
|  | 20) Alice Wayne           |
|  | 21) Janel Heaton          |
|  | 22) Jessanita Sandoval    |
|  | 23) Rena Lee              |
|  | 24) Richard Atene         |
|  | 25) Raquel Morris         |
|  | 26) Glenda Aumiller       |
|  | 27) Perry Riggs           |
|  | 28) Bernina Harrison      |
|  | 29) Geri Morris           |
|  | 30) Geneva Nargo          |
|  | 31) Anderson Harvey       |
|  | 32) Faithe Boyd           |
|  | 33) Phillip Watson        |
|  | 34) Eddie Chief           |
|  | 35) Elaine Johnson        |
|  | 36) Gladys Brodie         |
|  | 37) Jimmie Black          |
|  | 38) Perry Slim, Sr.       |
|  | 39) Brenna Henriquez      |
|  | 40) Lyle Watson           |
|  | 41) Ted Goodluck          |
|  | 42) Olin Bluehouse        |
|  | 43) Pastor Frederick Long |
|  | 44) Janelle Bluehouse     |
|  | 45) Paulette Joe          |
|  | 46) Joleen Morgan         |
|  | 47) Murphy Platero        |
|  | 48) Arlene Yazzie         |
|  | 49) Rose Worker           |
|  | 50) Calvin Boyd           |
|  | 51) Janice Platero        |
|  | 52) Kay Olsen             |
|  | 53) Marvin Slivers        |
|  | 54) Troy Ellison          |
|  | 55) Earlson Peacock       |
|  | 56) Barbara Davis         |
|  | 57) Fabian Jensen         |
|  | 58) Phylliberty Peacock   |
|  | 59) Nora Smith            |
|  | 60) Judy Shirley          |
|  | 61) Angela Yazzie         |
|  | 62) Lula Mariano          |
|  | 63) Aaron Begay           |
|  | 64) Lillie Tom            |

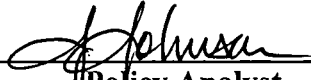


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|--|--|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>65) Lester Secatero</li><li>66) Norma Benally</li><li>67) Larry Harvey</li><li>68) Celissa Stephens</li><li>69) Mary Begay</li><li>70) Donna Nez</li><li>71) Dianne Morgan</li><li>72) Readda Begay</li><li>73) Annabelle George</li><li>74) Marietta Begaye</li><li>75) Clara Begay</li><li>76) Brad Jones</li><li>77) Marjorie Grey</li><li>78) Brenna Posey</li><li>79) Jane Nelson</li><li>80) Kaylana Frank</li><li>81) April Harvey</li><li>82) Mackenzie Baca</li><li>83) Rhoda Young</li><li>84) Rebecca Tsosie</li><li>85) Jennie Gordon</li><li>86) Trina Long</li><li>87) Maryeona Silversmith-Montano</li><li>88) Shaune Francisco</li><li>89) Shirley Scott</li><li>90) Herman Carr</li><li>91) Martha Tate</li><li>92) Edward Scott</li><li>93) Evelyn Edgewater</li><li>94) Buddy Joe</li><li>95) Raymond Yazzie</li><li>96) Janie Yazzie</li><li>97) Alyssa Dalgai</li><li>98) Wayne Benton</li><li>99) Vera Van Winkle</li><li>100) Marita C. Platero</li><li>101) Patrick Roan</li><li>102) Thelma Garcia</li><li>103) Al Scott</li><li>104) Lee Begay</li><li>105) Dianabelle Kercheva-Charley</li><li>106) Matilda Keams</li><li>107) Eugene Platero</li><li>108) Stan Burbank</li><li>109) Christine Young</li><li>110) Avey Arthur</li></ul> |
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|  | <p>111) Sam Hubbard<br/>112) Daniel Armfield<br/>113) Ferlin Nez<br/>114) James Eaton<br/>115) Emery Jackson<br/>116) Judy Peters<br/>117) Martha Semallie<br/>118) Michele Scott<br/>119) Emma Teeple<br/>120) Sharon Cornelius<br/>121) Nora Jean<br/>122) Marilee Ellingson<br/>123) Ray Nephew<br/>124) Ray Whitehair<br/>125) Eva Blackwater<br/>126) Lolita Skeets<br/>127) Jennifer Roubideux<br/>128) Molly Sloan<br/>129) Raymond Long<br/>130) Bessie Daw<br/>131) Laura Peter<br/>132) Willie Holiday<br/>133) Sandy Dennison<br/>134) Gloria Yazzie<br/>135) Brian Begay<br/>136) Mary Yazzie<br/>137) Winifred Mike<br/>138) Rosalie Nez<br/>139) Rose Gillis<br/>140) Linda Curley<br/>141) Mark Oracion<br/>142) Sherita Clitso<br/>143) Stacey Lee<br/>144) Angie White<br/>145) Ellson Bennett<br/>146) Marcus Etsitty<br/>147) James Fredy<br/>148) Carissa Tsosie<br/>149) Linda Yazzie<br/>150) Alice Kinlichee<br/>151) Beverly Nez<br/>152) Ramona Kasper<br/>153) Pastor Merrill Jones<br/>154) Theran Etsitty<br/>155) Char Begaye<br/>156) Joanne Lewis-Tsinijinnie</p> |
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|  | <p>157) San Juan Baptist Association<br/>158) Janell Hardy<br/>159) Sheldon R. Slim<br/>160) Sherry Anderson<br/>161) Lorraine Cambeis<br/>162) Benson Benally<br/>163) Elrene Yazzie<br/>164) Lorne Ahkee<br/>165) Stan Clitso<br/>166) Callie Bennett<br/>167) Verm Harvey<br/>168) Kevin Marshall<br/>169) Anselm Tom<br/>170) Randall D. Weston<br/>171) Elyssa Romero<br/>172) Quincy Benally<br/>173) Thomascita Romero<br/>174) Kristen Yazzie<br/>175) Rudie John<br/>176) Teec Nos Pos Chapter<br/>177) Regina Chee<br/>178) Mabel Whitehorse<br/>179) Robert Begay, Jr.<br/>180) Shannon Tohtsoni<br/>181) Elizabeth Scott<br/>182) Joseph and Wilbert Manheimer<br/>183) Shaun Marshall<br/>184) Dawn Charley<br/>185) Freida White<br/>186) Steven Funston<br/>187) Tommy Etsitty<br/>188) Leroy Shirley, Jr.<br/>189) Samuel Begay<br/>190) Arlene Hoskie<br/>191) Davis and Shirley Yazzie<br/>192) Sara McCabe<br/>193) Katie John<br/>194) Miranda Smith<br/>195) Teresa Joe<br/>196) Maxine Hoskie<br/>197) Patsy Ganeeha<br/>198) Brenda Hoskie<br/>199) Tom Wilson<br/>200) Al Bitsilly<br/>201) Destiny Laughlin<br/>202) Gilbert Todachine</p> |
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|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
|                                 | <b>203) Irene D. Henio</b><br><b>204) Ida Wilcox</b><br><b>205) Ella Wilson</b><br><b>206) Phoebe Begay</b><br><b>207) Christina Tyler</b><br><b>208) Rose Nez</b>   |
| <b>Comments/Recommendations</b> | <b>1) Arlene Edd</b><br><b>2) Belle Curtis</b><br><b>3) Carol Loome</b><br><b>4) Benny Wilson</b><br><b>5) Margie Scott Cseh</b><br><b>6) Gilbert Singer</b><br><b>7) Cheryl Yazzie</b><br><b>8) Jeannette M. Yazzie</b> |



**Policy Analyst**  
**Office of Legislative Services**

**June 30, 2023; 12:50 PM**

**Date/Time**

# Legislation 0139-23

Gevern Begay <gevernbegay@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 3:02 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I, Gevern J. Begay of Bodaway/Gap community state as follows:

1. I was appalled that insufficient notification was not given on the prior issue of same sex marriage.
2. Families across the reservation have relatives and adult children who chose to married legally off reservation because our NN have negative issues
3. These couples choose to live off reservation and why is the NN being selective of the type of gender that can live and be recognized on the reservation.
4. What I know is these individuals were born that way. It is not their fault but are penalize and not accepted to marry legally on the Navajo reservation.
5. If we allow this scrutinize type of legislation to remain as such we will have done an injustice to our Dine people. I was taught by my elders that these are sacred people.
6. What type of legal action will take place and is the NN ready to handle these people because we have many.
7. The NN Council really need to change this law in favor of the many people out there who not a fault of their own live on and off reservation trying to be accepted.
8. I know and seen couples who have found stability in their homes with the couple working as a team to support each others. These people are voters.

I am in favor of this legislation. I commend Honorable Seth Damon for sponsoring this legislation. It is hoped our council delegates will vote favorably.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

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# Registration 0139-23

Latisha Carr <tishac11@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:26 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Hello,  
My name is Latisha Carr-Tague. I would like you to reconsider the decision made on registration 0139-23 as this affects my plans to move back to the reservation. I am currently in a same sex marriage and would like my spouse to be recognized, if not that I do not feel coming to the reservation is a good thing without her being recognized as my spouse. My wife is a nurse and would be a good help to hospitals on the navajo nation or help with elders in where we planned to move back to Bodaway Gap chapter area. My specialty is gaming as I work in a TGO department off the reservation. We wanted to move back to be part of the community, stay within my roots and to help the community with our specialty learned off the reservation. I want to ensure our marriage means to NN what it means to us off the reservation.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

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# Legislation 0139-23

Dillon Chavez <chavezcoolrunner@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:08 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I write this email/comment in demanding that the Navajo Nation recognize and approve the need for same-sex marriage. Not doing so would only continue to alienate our LGBTQIA+ citizens as well as maintaining a reputation of being "old school" when the United States and many other world governments have already taken the initiative of protecting these freedoms.

As a Navajo Nation citizen, I understand those who might oppose this legislation might argue that we're simply doing it in the name of tradition but one can't help but ask: Whose tradition? That of the Navajo People or that of the Christian faith that came from overseas? There is no way of knowing what our ancestors felt regarding LGBTQIA+ (Two-Spirit) people because like many things, such knowledge was lost during the time of war, dislocation, and disease inflicted by those who sought to colonize our land. Not recognizing same-sex marriage in the name of tradition allows for the suppression of Native people to continue and it is my hope that we will not show the rest of the country/world that we still allow antiquated concepts to flourish.

Apart from tradition itself but in relation to its name, I would implore members of the Navajo People, Council and President Nygren's administration that adopting a policy in the name of any one faith only serves to invite favoritism which only invites division. This country is already divided enough on many issues and I would hate to see it fester on the Navajo Nation as well. Faith is a positive aspect when one seeks guidance and/or reassurance when we go about our lives but we should not use it to dictate the lives of others. History has gone to show the repercussions when any government implements policy based on religion and those results often end in conflict and more often than not; bloody. We as Indigenous People of the "Americas" should know this fact more than most because we've been fighting it for the past 5 centuries and we've seen it be the reason why so much bloodshed has occurred across other continents. So when President Nygren or the Navajo Nation Council make their decision to the legalization or outlawing of same-sex marriage, I would ask them not to make it based upon faith.

The Navajo Nation has a unique opportunity to show the country, the world, and all other Native Nations that we are a tribe of love, acceptance and freedom. Let us not squander such a chance. It is often said that we should "Walk in Beauty" but such a saying is not appropriate when we shame or exclude a portion of our People simply based on their orientation; an identity that they did not choose but were simply meant to be as individuals and who are we, or anyone, to question that reality? If we are truly healing as Native people of our traumas of the past, then recognizing this right should be a testament to that movement.

Thank you for reading and may you also "Walk in Beauty"

-Dillon Chavez -- (New Mexico-Nageezi/Chaco Canyon)

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# Gay marriage act

CALEB LAUBER <crldine@aol.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:13 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

As a Navajo physician, allowing gay marriage is equitable and right. Not allowing equality in marriage is discriminatory and hateful. Please do the right thing.

Thank you,

Caleb Lauber MD MBA

Sent from my iPhone

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# Approve Same Sex marriage

Forgotten People CDC <forgottenpeoplecdc@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 6:49 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

The Navajo Nation should approve Same Sex marriage. Happiness however it is found should be preserved, respected, and appreciated

Please respect choice and love

Thank you,

Marsha Monestersky

Forgotten People

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# Legislation 0139-23

Curtis Berry <codyb87@gmail.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 7:39 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Good morning,

I write this email in support of Legislation 0139-23. Marriage should be for everyone. The Dine' Marriage Act discriminates and should be repealed.

Thank you,

Curtis Berry

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# Legislation 0139-23

Cindy S. Covey <csjscovey2@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 7:45 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Hello Honorable Delegates, I am pleading with you to not vote in favor of Legislation 0139-23. We the people do not want same sex marriage to be a part of our culture. We want to preserve our Navajo Culture to honor our elders who have always taught us that a marriage is between a man and a woman. Please protect and preserve our future generation to honor these most sacred teachings. Ke' is our way of life, we identify ourselves with our mother's as our first clan, and our father's as our second clan; how are we going to teach our next generation these most sacred teachings, if we confuse them with a mother and a mother or a father and a father as their first and second clan.

Sent from Mail for Windows

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# Legislation 0139-23

GINA BLAKE <desertblake@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 9:26 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

June 27, 2023

Herman Daniel's, Council Delegate InscriptionHouse, Navajo Mtn, Oljato

*It's been said that one voice represents one thousand, so let mine do so for my people who are not capable to read nor write.*

*May we remind you that you are our voice, representing us in each decision made for our Navajo nation.*

*On the matter of HGBTQ2, that's their own choice and not the acceptable traditionally held standard for those of us who are in Western Navajo area. As for those who claim Adszaan nagleii are misinterpreting its meaning of our four seasons explained to us that are way over seventies, those younger are using it wrongly to state their agenda due to untaught hearsay. Please be mindful of the majority of voters to say NO to Legislation 0139-23 which will rescind Title 9, the Diné Marraige Act and replace it with same sex marriage.*

*Thank you for respectfully choosing g to be considerate of your Navajo voters.*

*TeddyBlake, P.O.Box      ayenta, AZ 86033.*

Sent from my iPhone

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# Same sex marriage

Florence Riggs <riggs.florence@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 10:50 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I would like to put my comment in pertaining to same sex marriage on Navajo Nation. I disagree with this legislation because we Humanity were made to be male & female, with that it's suppose to reproduce offspring. God didn't say female/female or male/male but male/female! So please VOTE NO!

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# Legislation 0139-23

Bessie Hatathlie <Bessie.Hatathlie@nndss.org>

Tue 6/27/2023 12:08 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Good afternoon,

I am NOT in favor of this Legislation 0139-23, as a member of the Navajo Nation, I vote NO !!!

Thank you,

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# "NO" to Legislation 0139-23

USER DATA <djj\_lane@hotmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 1:11 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Navajo Leaders,

Please be informed that 70+% of people that are Gay or LGBTQ. . . have been sexually molested when they were children. The Gay and LGBTQ... people will commit these acts on children again and it goes on and on, another words these people become pedophiles. This is the reason Drag Queen Reading Time are being brought into Libraries and schools, these people want to get close to children and touch children.

Navajo Nation needs to stop this cycle and talk about how to stop this sickness. Going along with it and supporting "Marriage for All" will destroy our family unit and our culture. Marriage is between a Man and Women so that the family unit can be nourished and multiply, that is how we have grown in population.

DO NOT VOTE FOR LEGISLATION 0139-23!!!!

A believer in Family,

Dolly L

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In the subject, type Legislation 0139-23

Elouise Graham <egrahamtat19@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:10 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

The Navajo Nation needs to vote against this for the safety of mankind. The popularity of a wrong by the world does not make a right a wrong. Remember Sodom and Gomorrah!

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# Legislation 0139-23

April Littleman <aprilrainlitlemanbedonie011@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:11 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I oppose this vote for No, to same sex marriage.

Ahèè, Sincerely

from Coppermine, Az.

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# Untitled

Lena Curley <curleylena9@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:17 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Do NOT Approve same sec marriage on the reservation. NO NO NO!!!

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same sex marriage

Virginia and William D Lee <leevirginiaandwilliamd@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:17 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

As a member of the Navajo Nation, I William D. Lee, of Cove Chapter, am **strongly opposed** to approval of same sex marriage. Although I live in Shiprock, my home chapter is Cove.

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# No Sex Marriages.

Shiela Yazzie <yazzie.shiela@icloud.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:17 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I vote NO!

Lady

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0139-23

marcy mar <dgiddens7262@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:17 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Against same sex marriage for Navajo Nation. Thanks, Dana Giddens

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# Legislation 0139-23

Larrisa North <larrisanorth@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:17 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I am a member of the Navajo Nation and I oppose this legislation, thank you.

**Larrisa Luther**  
(623)

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# Same sex marriage

Debbie Largo <debbielargo@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:17 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I would like to put in my comments about this subject.

Same sex marriage is Not our way of life. Our people have walked, The Long Walk, 159 years ago to keep our culture n our way of life. To teach next generation our way of life, n same sex marriage was never in their reasoning for the Walk, it was to preserved families n their grandchildren to come.

Thank you for listening

Sent from my iPhone

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# Legislation 0139-23

Cindy Largo <cindylargo61@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:17 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I do not agree with the same sex marriage because with the traditional ways it is not acceptable to our forefathers an old traditional ways. Since when do we put our traditional ways aside and start living the white men's way.

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Marriage is honored between a man & a women, Diyin God created man in His own image, & a women to be his companion, as his wife!!

Marita Chief <maritachief@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:17 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

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I vote against it No No No No

Marlene Deswood <marlene.deswood@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:17 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

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# Same sex marriage

Sophia Jones <sfaithbegishe@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:17 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

To whom it may concern,

My name is Sophia Jones, i am a member of the Shonto Az community. I am against this same sex marriage agenda. It is immoral and goes against my faith. Nothing can be gained from this ruling if approved. It will only bring disharmony to our nation and should not be considered at all. Thank you for your time.

-Sophia Jones-

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# Legislation 0139-23

Evelyn Martin <evelynmartin298@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:17 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

In 2 Chronicles 7:14 It says If MY PEOPLE who are called by my name will Humble themselves and Pray and seek my face and TURN FROM THEIR WICKED WAYS, then i will hear from heaven and will Forgive their Sin and Heal their land.... If We as a Nation go along with other nations, people life style WE we will Perish.. Rite now we are trying to ask for water rights... When our Navajo Nation Government opens its doors of this Wickedness then you have Curse us... Our Fore fathers have told us Long ago Not to ALLOW this kind of Behavior, Lifestyle... Please!! Think about What it will do to our land, children, Our People.... In the Mighty Name of JESUS CHRIST dont Allow it, dont sign the papers.... Thank you...

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# Legislation 0139-23

Cherilyn Sells <chersells81@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:17 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Good Morning. I would say vote NO!! The reason I say that is because our Grandparents didnt do those kinds of things. THEY would've been very upset and asked what were our teaching for? So I say NO!!!

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# Untitled

Alice Wayne <wayali316@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:17 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

0139-23

I VOTE No.

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# Untitled

Janel Heaton <j58sandoval@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:17 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

No-same sex marriages for Navajo Nation

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# Untitled

Jessanita Sandoval <2hsandoval@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:17 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Legislation 0139-23

No same sex marriages for navajo nation

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# Untitled

Rena Lee <leerena16@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:17 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I'm not all for this same sex marriage. God made marriage between a man and a women.  
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# Legislation 0139-23

Richard Atene <atenerichard@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:17 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

No to same sex marriage

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# Legislation 0139-23

Raquel Morris <raquel25morris@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I strongly disagree with approving this law.

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# Legislation 0139-23

glenda aumiller <gjunney@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I strongly DISAGREE with the legislation & vote against it.

Marriage should only be between a biological man and a biological woman.

Save our Native values & children.

Marriage was invented by God, not by man. We have neither the authority nor the ability to change what marriage is. The most that an individual or a government can do is misapply the term to relationships that are not actually marriages. Marriage requires the specific form of a union of man and woman (Gen. 2:24).

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# Untitled

Perry Riggs <riggsperry94@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

0139-23 No

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# Untitled

Bernina Harrison <harrisonrosebernina72@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Same Sex marriage is not a good idea for our Navajo Nation.

As a child of God, I am against this. According to the Word of God, God did not created us to have a same sex marriages. God created a female and a male and have kids together, not same sex marriages. I vote against this idea. And I pray that Navajo Nation does not approve this. God created us in His image after his likeness, we are fighting against a spiritual warfare that's changing what God created in His image. As a Christian we all need to pray against this evil spirit that's changing the Images of God to Satan's images. Wake up people!! We need to pray!! We are all made in the image of God, here Satan is trying to change that. Navajo Nation Leaders vote against this idea of same sex marriage... Vote No!! This is not okay! Look back into your bible! It is written.

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# Legislation 0139-23

Geri Morris <geri.mor\_89@yahoo.ca>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Hello, i am sending this email to say I am strongly opposed to the Same Sex Marriage. It is against God's law an it is quoted in the Holy Bible, that men should not lay w men, an women not lay w women. It is an abomination. I PRAY this does not go into effect. We will be judged by this when the day comes. God bless our Navajo Nation. Thank you...

GM

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Title#139-23

Geneva Nargo <pinkdiamonds.gn@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

No do not do this I oppose strongly. Our elders also oppose.

No. No. No.

Thank you

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# Legislation 0139-23

Anderson Harvey <ecocop\_ander@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

What is wrong with you Navajo Leaders discussing this Same sex marriage nonsense at council level, didn't you even learned from your parents, grand parents and elders that touching anyone in a wrongful manner, especially between same gender will bring disharmony, discord, and literally twist your physical body, mind in every way possible, in addition to degrading our clan system. STOP creating problems for our younger Navajo generations. There are better meaningful things to discuss such as fixing the highways, provide better heating for our elders, public safety, education, produce quality beef cattle with better livestock range management, economic progress ,etc. Do'daa, Do'daa, Do'daa !!!!!

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# Untitled

Faithe Boyd <faitheboyd551@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Hello my name is faithe and I am commenting about the the marriage between man and man, woman and woman. I believe that buu nygren should not pass this, because it specifically says in the Bible that it should be man and woman. It is not apart of our navajo tradition and it should be respected. I know our world is changing but we all should protect the navajo nation from any worldly changes and keep those new changes outside of the navajo nation. I strongly suggest you speak to our elders about this and let the people speak for themselves.

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I vote no to aprove same sex marriages.

Phillip Watson <watsonphillip75@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

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# Legislation 0139-23

Eddie Chief <echief44@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

No No Navajo nation should up hold family as Men and Women Not same sex thing

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# Legislation 0139-23

Elaine Johnson <elainejohnson5\_98@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

No on this legislation. Even in our culture we aren't supposed to have same sex couples. The 2 sexes were created for procreation. We are heading into a corrupt society if we allow this. I know the same sex couples are going to live together regardless, but as a nation who respects their elders teachings we can't allow it.

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# Legislation 0139-23

G Bird <glhanabah@icloud.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

NN 25th Council:

Prayerfully asking the 25th Navajo Nation Council, not to approve this divisive legislation, Legislation 0139-23.

1. This will only divide Diné instead of uniting them.
  2. Daily our moral consciousness are being compromised with human made laws of the land instead of adhering to God's.
  3. Didn't our ancestors teach us not practice such wicked behavior? Nádleeh, dooda. Doo ajiit'iida. T'oo baa yáhásin.
- This was taught to me by my Aunt Fannie Gray (may she rest in peace) in my young days as a teenager.

Gladys Brodie

Pinedale community member

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# Untitled

Jimmie Black <blk.diamond.ranch@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Legislation 0139-23 , Our Navajo people never had that kind of life style, from the begining, ( same sex marriage) and we, the Navajo people are against it and it should not be put into action for our people . We are better people, we know our people, would not approve of that kind of life style . It's a disgrace to and for our people, to have that kind of life style . We are a great Nation, wise and humble people. We sat good examples and to be great leaders for our young people. We can't disgrace ourselves in front of our young people. Do not put that stupid law into action. No , to same sex marriage for our great Navajo . Let's keep being a great proud Navajo people and nation . God forbids for us to go, against his commandments. God bless our Navajo Nation. This is Jimmie Black , from Cowsprings, Arizona Thank You.

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Same sex.

Perry Slim Sr. <perryslimsr74@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Please vote no on same sex . It's against our religion. Need to try an stay with our elders teachings...  
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# Legislation 0139-23

Brenna Henriquez <lee.breezi@icloud.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Do not support same sex marriage. This should not be allowed on Navajo Nation.

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# Vote No

Lyle Watson <lyle.red@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I vote NO

Sent from my iPhone

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# Legislation 0139-23

ted goodluck <tgoodluck\_1999@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

June 27, 2023

Greetings; Representatives of the Navajo Nation; Navajo Nation Council Delegates. et. al.

Societal changes have shown us that:

- Children hunger for their biological parents.
- Children need fathers.
- Children need mothers.
- Evidence on parenting by same-sex couples is inadequate.
- Evidence suggests children raised by homosexuals are more likely to experience gender and sexual disorders.
- Same-sex "marriage" would undercut the norm of sexual fidelity within marriage.
- Same-sex "marriage" would further isolate marriage from its reproductive purpose.
- Same-sex "marriage" would further diminish the expectation of paternal commitment.
- Marriages thrive when spouses specialize in gender-typical roles.
- Women and marriage domesticate men.

Based on these understandings', my convictions must be:

- Marriage is between a man and a woman.
- Same-sex marriage undermines the meaning of the traditional family.
- I oppose the legalization of same-sex marriage.
- I support a statutory ban on same-sex marriage.

I pray to God that you receive the wisdom, knowledge and understanding to make the proper decision for our Navajo Nation. Let The Navajo Nation be the last stronghold of moral and traditional values.

God Bless you in this task. Respectfully submitted,

# Legislation 0139-23

Olin Bluehouse <osbluehouse@icloud.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I totally disagree with "Same Sex Marriage" because our tradition and culture will be interrupted and become confused with their identity as a people group. The idea is detrimental to our society as a whole because other laws will follow that will drastically change our beliefs and the way we function as a unique people group. Please reconsider and not allow "Same Sex Marriage" on our blessed Navajo Nation.

Sent from my iNDn Phone

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# Legislation 0139-23

Fred Long <pastorfred@gallupallnationsassemblyofgod.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Greetings,

First I want to thank you for allowing us to voice our concern for the legislation that is being presented. The weight of this decision falls on our Council and we as a church will be praying for each of you. The Dine Nation has always stood for what is true despite opposition and we have always voted on what was right. Now I am afraid that the Dine Nation is cowering before this LGBTQ agenda fulling knowing in our spirits that it goes against God and nature itself. We are asking you as a Council to listen to the voice inside of you telling you to keep marriage between a man and a woman. Marriage between a man and a woman has been the cornerstone on which our nation has stood. If Title 9 is repealed then we open our Nation to confusion and our stance as a moral and just people will be compromised. So I am praying that you will have the courage to stand for truth even if persecution comes but we will know deep inside of our spirits that as a Dine People we did what was right. Thank you very much.

Pastor Frederick Long  
All Nations Assembly of God

Gallup, NM 87301

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# Negative to same sex marriages on the Navajo Nation.

Janelle Bluehouse <janelle.bluehouse83@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

It's an abomination to God! If we want God's blessing upon the Navajo Nation, we should abide by his laws. God created man and woman to marry!!! Anything else is an abomination against God. If someone has two spirits, they may be possessed, demonized. God does not make mistakes! If we choose to go against God, he will remove his hand, upon the Navajo Nation. Do not create chaos for our Navajo Nation. Just because the outside world does it, does not mean we as a nation need to follow. You are our leaders, think correctly for God! I pray for you all and your decisions. Gods know exactly the way you vote, and your afterlife will certainly matter. NO! To same sex marriage.

Sent from my iPhone

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# Untitled

Paulette Joe <pjoe14@mail.npc.edu>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I oppose the legislation of same sex marriage on the Navajo Nation. We as a people should continue to live in harmony with what was taught by our elders. I was brought up with a father and mother. I had a grandmother and grandfather. That is a rightful way of life and a household for children to live in.

Thank you for this opportunity. May God continue bless our Nation by being in right standing with Him.

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# Legislation 0139-23

Joleen Morgan <jomorgan04@icloud.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Good day,

It is in great interest of our Navajo people that need to understand that in the beginning of the world; our Creator spoke things into existence. God made Man & Woman. He made us into His image and told us to reproduce and multiply. With all due respect, it is not right to go against Gods commands. It isn't right to support same sex marriage just because other Nations or States approve it. Navajo Nation needs to stand strong and believe in the truth of how things should be. Opposite Sex marriage is what was intended for us from the beginning of time. Man & Woman becomes one as they join together in marriage. Woman was made from the rib of Man so therefore she was called Woman. If Navajo Nation supports same sex marriage then NN is going against the beliefs of our ancestors. So please take into consideration, what the Navajo peoples input to this legislation is before making a decision. Put your own opinions/judgments aside and listen to what the people of NN are saying. After all , We the People, our voices need to be heard. Thank you & have a blessed day. May God be with you all in making the right decision as we are faced with many obstacles and challenges up ahead.

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# Legislation 0139-23

Murphy Platero <mlplatero@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:18 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

No !! To same sex marriage

Mp.

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# Untitled

Arlene Yazzie <arlene.gene20@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:19 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I say NO to same sex marriage. Cause God put Man and Woman on this earth to multiple. Probably in Navajo Way it's been taught like that too. Same sex can't multiple,it's just embarrassing to our Navajo way. So we have to stand up for our Navajo that we stand for who we are. NOT while man's way. God bless our Nation.

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# Legislation 0139-23

Rose Worker <sandsprings.rw58@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:19 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

This legislation 0139-23 sounds like this has not been told to the DINE' people that are Navajo voters across our Reservation. Do thrown this legislation in our face with a few people declaring it's okay. NO NO SIGN of any other members.

Voter of Tolani Lake Chpt

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# Untitled

Calvin Boyd <boyd2372@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:19 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I do vote NO on this...A marriage between a Man and Woman is how it should BE!!!

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# Sam sex legislation

Janice Platero <jplatero\_44@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:19 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Do not vote for this. It is not agreeable from the beginning. Our ancestors never gave in marriage and paid for a same sex marriage. They acknowledged two spirited people but your answer is in that name. Two spirited. Spirits. I ask that our leaders do not vote for this. We will be in judgement for allowing this. It goes beyond flesh and blood but spirituality. Each generation we allow things that our forefathers never allowed. Each generation loses discipline, sacredness of marriage, and self control. You reap what you sow. I vote no.

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# Same sex marriages

Kay Olsen <kayo2017@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:19 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

There should not be no such thing getting approve.. i say NO!NO!NO! Etc...

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# Legislation 0139-23

Marvin Slivers <mslivers233@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:19 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I don't agree with same sex marriage. NO

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Re: Legislation 0139-23

Troy Ellison <tcellison87@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:19 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Attn Speaker Damon,

As a Diné individual of Christian faith I would like to voice and record my opposition to the repeal of Title 9 of the Navajo Nation Code. The wisdom and previous codification of Title 9 should be upheld and respected, as it was passed by Diné leaders of both traditional and Christian backgrounds, (evangelical, Baptist, catholic, Mormon and other denominations). That Council was larger body than the existing council and composed of a more diverse body of individuals democratically elected and representing the political and moral will of the Navajo people, *many* of whom are currently and were at the time Christians.

Furthermore the repeal of Title 9 does not impede the right of individuals who wish to have a same-sex marriage from receiving it, per the 2015 US Supreme Court ruling Obergefell v. Hodges regard same-sex marriages. Said ruling applies in all federal jurisdictions in the United States regardless of tribal sovereignty, especially in the states in which the Navajo Nation is within, New Mexico Utah & Arizona.

I thank you and pray for your wisdom and discernment on this matter,

Troy Ellison

Fruitland, NM

(registered @ Red Mesa, UT)

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# Legislation 0139-23

Barbara Davis <dbarbara456@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:19 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

NO, NO, NO, to same sex marriage

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# Comment

Fabian Jensen <fabianjensen2021@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:19 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

No to the idea of same sex , we the Navajo people should not be apart of what rest of the world is agree to do ,  
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# Legislation 0139-23

Phylliberty Peacock <phylliberty.peacock@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:19 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Please reconsider the passing of Legislation 0139-23, which allows same-sex marriages on the Navajo Nation. Do not pass this legislation. This will cause harm to the makeup of families on the reservation. Children need both a mother and father to bring order and direction. We have fought over the years to strengthen families through fatherhood and motherhood programs. We need to maintain that stance.  
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# Same sex marriage

Nora Smith <snora0611@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:19 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I oppose on this... please do not pass this law because this is not normal.... God forbid this because he did not create a man for a man from the beginning of time....God created a woman from a man's rib so do not let God's wrath come on our people

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0139-23

Judy Shirley <azdissy@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:19 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

LGBTQ FACTS: lesbian, gay and bisexual people experience sexual violence at similar or higher rates than straight people. Always go back and listen to our Elders, they preached to reproduce and have a loving marriage.

I disagree with this legislation! Next, will be boys playing on the girls sport and so on.

NO! NO! NO!

Praying for our Navajo Nation President and All the Elected Officials, that they Make Wise Decisions for All Dine People.  
God Bless America!!!

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# Legislation 0139-23

Angela Yazzie <annjyazzie@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:19 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I oppose this legislation regarding same sex marriage. From the foundation of the world, our Heavenly Father, the Creator of the Universe has designed in his plan only two sex, male and female. According to this sacred design, we need to honor family. Each one of us human beings came from a father and mother. Base off this truth— we should not engage or support same sex marriage. It is an abomination to our Heavenly Father— the God of the universe. It should not take science, psychology or the push from the secular humanism But instead to make a decision based on our God given rights and that is according to the Truth/ the Word of God — the Holy Bible.

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0139-23

Lula Mariano <llmariano@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:19 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I am against Same Sex Marriage!

Yes, we are DINE (Holy People). And as DINE - Holy People, we have sacred traditions. One of our sacred tradition is marriage. First Man and First Woman. Not first man and first man. We were created as male and female to reproduce to be a Nation. There is no sacredness in same sex marriage. It is an abomination to our God, and it is a sin. How can we as DINE people approve or this!

I understand LGBTQ people are love ones. Yes they are our love ones who are confused about who they are! We don't want them. We need to let them know that this confusion needs to stop. We need to pray for them to be delivered from the confusion and be who God made them to be if made a Man, then be a Man, if made a woman, be a Woman, and not be confused about it.

We will not be a blessed Navajo Nation if we approve Same Sex Marriage. We will be judged by God's wrath.

Let's not be confused. Let's agree that we as DINE people will uphold our marriage traditions and honor our God and keep it sacred as planned from the beginning.

Thank you.

LMLargo

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# Untitled

Aaron Begay <aaronbegay24@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:19 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

This is very wrong same sex marriages infringes on the sacredness of marriage

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# Legislation 0139-23

Lillie Tom <lillietom1627@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:19 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Same sex marriage :

Forbidden- Leviticus 18:22

Punishment- Leviticus 20:13

Abomination- 1kings 14:24

Unclean- Romans 1:24, 26-27

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# Comment

Lester Secatero <lestersecatero@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:19 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Our ancestors will turning in their graves if we ever approve it I vote against it

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Do not believe same sex marriage should be approved. Thank you

norma benally <nbenally.666@hotmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:20 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

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# NAVAJO NATION: Legislation 0139-23

Larry Harvey <lh7480612@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:20 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Legislation 0139-23:

NO!...TO SAME SEX MARRIAGE

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# Stand Tall say No to Repel Title 9

Celissa Stephens <celissa246@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:20 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I have worked on the Navajo Reservation and have many friends who are Navajo. I myself am an enrolled member of the Choctaw Nation.

I was notified by a concerned Navajo that Delegate Damon has sponsored legislation 0139-23 to repeal Title 9 of the Navajo Nation Code which will recognize all marriages which includes same-sex.

I stand and support my Navajo friends who do not wish to support the repeal of Title 9 due to conflict with culture.

Respectfully,  
CGS

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# Untitled

Mary Begay <mbegay923@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:20 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Vote no for same sex marriage, how does that work? Be sensitive to our values and beliefs. Man and woman were created not same sex.

NO, NO

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# Legislation 0139-23

Donna Nez <darthurnez@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:20 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

My husband and I, we Pastor Hardrock Community Church. We are registered voter of Hardrock Chapter. We are in opposition of Legislation 0139-23. We are already in a crisis situation in our communities with the all kinds of unauthorized practice. To allow this Legislation to pass will be like allowing alcohol to be sold on Navajo land. This is not the teaching of our Elders. We believe the Bible is God's standard, Legislation 0139-23 is against God's standard.

Can someone verify my comments will be heard. Thanks

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# Legislation 0139-23

Dianne Morgan <dmorgan86@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:20 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

NO

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# Untitled

Readda Begay <rmtzbegay5@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:20 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Legislation 0139-23

I'm against gay marriages especially on our navajo reservation. We are already dealing with a lot of issues on NN with drugs, alcohol, homeless, gang members and so forth.

From the beginning of God's creation, Our God wasn't confused when He made MALE & FEMALE.

Thanks hope you consider my comment.

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0139-23

Annabelle George <ageorge31@my.sanjuancollege.edu>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:20 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

To whom it concerns

As a Christian and a Navajo tribal member, I do not agree with same sex marriage that this Delegate is introducing to be legalized into law behind closed doors. If you want people's support, you need to put it on the voting ballot and let the people vote. God help the Navajo Nation.

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# Same Sex Marriage

Marietta Begaye <begayemarietta@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:20 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

NO! NO! NO! NO! NO!

Sincerely,

Marietta Begaye

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# Untitled

Clara Begay <begayclara1@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:20 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

No gay marriage allowed

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# Same Sex Legislation

Brad Jones <bradleyterrell@icloud.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:20 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Greetings,

I respectfully disagree with this legislation on grounds of the current moral instability that is plaguing our country that includes the Navajo Nation.

The moral decay and the insatiable desire for instant gratification lays at the heart of this thought process.

We must continue to make moral judgment without regard to political considerations and or affiliations including westernized liberal ideology and indoctrination that has been introduced to the young generation.

Through wisdom of our elders, we have made great strides in limiting marriage and defining marriage to one man and one woman. This minimizes further legislation that future generations have to deal with and it helps us to minimize the negative impact for future generations and how they will have to make life decisions by having to explain the difference and the confusion it will cause.

Further, the ability to conceive Navajo children is stopped in a same sex union because of the lack of reproductive capacities thus future generations of Navajo people will diminish.

We must act and respond wisely.

Respectfully,

BTJ.

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0139-23

Marjorie Grey <mgrey585@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:20 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I vote no no to same marriage please. I don't agree with that even though I have a son that's gay. I am against same marriage. My son was borne into this world as a man and I believe in our Lord Jesus Christ he will died like a man 🙏🏻

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no to the same sex marriage

Breanna Posey <breannaposey@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:20 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Hello.

They should not vote on this on our reservation. This is against our culture and religion. If this happens then we have not only followed the enemy but have sold ourselves out. Please rethink this though.

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# Legislation 0139-23

Jane Nelson <ateedbiih@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:20 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Good afternoon. Please do not institute the same sex marriage on the NN. Where are our morals? God did not institute ADAM & STEVE, but Adam and Eve. Thank you very much.

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# Legislation 0139-23

Kaylana Frank <kaylanadraper17@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:20 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

**Kaylana Frank**

P.O. BOX  
Chinle, Az

Kaylanadraper17@gmail.com

27th June, 2023

To whom it may concern,

Hello, my name is Kaylana Frank. A little about me, I attend the Chinle Potter's House, and I am proud to say I am christian. I'm 23 years old, married and have one child on the way. My husband and I are very happily married. We are both involved in a leading ministry at our church which is "Children's Church". My husband and I are leaders to the kids to teach them about God and to stay saved.

Personally, my vote for same sex marriage is a NO, I do not support this. Because it is very wrong and not right. I honestly have to say it is very demonic and something like this does not belong on the reservation. It's just not right, and something like this is just confusing and ruining our kids' minds. It is very cruel to be impacting this on our children, you're basically changing/motivating our kids to change their genders, when they are already born as a girl or boy. Our people are not robots! They can't just change whenever they want. It's not only confusing our kids, it's also interfering with parents' teachings, of how they want to raise their childrens. It's sad, because now this "pride" is everywhere, we can't watch movies or go anywhere without having to see bisexuals on screen and in public. It's very sad and disturbing to see nowadays a disney character has to be bisexual in kids shows. And as a wife involved in a Children's Church ministry, my husband and I have to protect our kids from this world. As to the real meaning of the rainbow, we don't know if we should have them continue doing rainbows. Because the gays disrespectfully took it from God and used it as their "pride" color. And when we have visitors come to our church, the first thing on their mind is why is their child doing a rainbow, and thinking we support the "pride". And we don't want them to think that. Also, what confuses me is why our Dine people say they are very "traditional" with very strict rules. That is so against us

christians and saying the church is bad and no good. But they are supporting this “pride” makes no sense at all. It’s basically telling me they are okay with man to do a Kinaalda ceremony and that they are okay with doing traditional wedding for a same sex marriage. That’s basically what some of our Dine people are presenting to everyone. Yes, we are humans and deserve equal rights, but this does not count as rights. It’s just not.

Again my vote is NO, and I 100% do not support this and that is what I have to say. I have no hate against them nor do I envy them. I just pray for them and hope they realize that what they are doing is wrong. I especially pray for our Navajo Nation. I love my people and especially the kids, as becoming new parents we are protecting our child from this type of thing. I wish nothing but the best to those, and I keep them in prayer. Thank you for taking the time to read my comment and having to input our comments about this subject.

Sincerely,

**Kaylana Frank**

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same sex marriage

april harvey <april\_tci@hotmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:20 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I would have to say that I do not agree with any approval of same sex marriages. That is not the moral thing to do. Just because other people are doing does not make it right. In the eyes of God he created it to be male & female.

Thank you for listening.

**April Harvey**

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# Same sex marriage

Mackenzie Baca <mackbaca@icloud.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:20 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Hi. To whom it may concern. This is Not in the Bible. God made man and women. You are Not going by the Bible. Here are verses from the Bible. And if you are Pastor and allowing you will Not enter in the kingdom of Heaven as the Day is Coming Near!

**Leviticus 18:22** ~ You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination.

**Leviticus 20:13** ~ If a man lies with a male as with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination; they shall surely be put to death; their blood is upon them.

**Jude 1:7** ~ Just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire.

**Romans 1:26-28** ~ For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error. And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.

**Mark 10:6-9** ~ But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."

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# Untitled

Rhoda Young <young5rw@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:20 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I believe that we should not approve same sex marriages. The lord our God does not approve of this kind of acts.  
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# Untitled

Rebecca Tsosie <tsosie5594@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:21 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

No! No! No! On same sex marriage

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# Untitled

Jennie Gordon <jennie04gordon@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:21 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Legislation 0139-23...I believe marriage between man and women I stand for.

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# Untitled

trina Long <trinalong412@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:21 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Hello, I will vote "no" on same sex marriages. Thank you

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# Same sex marriage

Maryeona Montano <montano\_98@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:21 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I disapprove the same sex marriage on the Navajo Nation. We are losing our values, respect for ourselves, our people and lost our language as Dine (Navajo) people. This is not a change needed on the Navajo Nation. Marriage is between a man and woman only. I can not see them doing a traditional marriage with same sex——our ancestors would never allow this and we as Native Americans should not allow it also.

Best regards,

Maryeona Silversmith-Montano

Sent from my iPhone

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Same sex Marriage.

Shaune Francisco <francisco83.ml@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:21 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

NO NO NO. YAADIILAH. DO NOT PASS IT.

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Title 139-33

Shirley Scott <shirleyscott1106@icloud.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:21 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I Oppose : The NN enact Marriage

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In the Bible says;

louann carr <carrlugarita09@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:21 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Leviticus 18:22

Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.

Leviticus 20:13

If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.

Mark 10:6-7

(6) But from the beginning of the creation God MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE.

(7) FOR THIS CAUSE SHALL A MAN LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER, AND CLEAVE TO HIS WIFE.

I Believe it is Written!!

By: (SILOAM)

Herman Carr

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0139-23

Martha Tate <martha.tate1835@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 9:38 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Regarding Legislation 0139-23;

This is one change that does NOT serve the needs of the Dine' people.

This new council and the new OPVP administration is catering to the Special Interest Groups only.

Whatever happened to the NORMAL Dine' citizens voice? There is less than 1% of the Navajo people who are LGBT status!

There are more issues that need to be addressed than to waste the Navajo people's time and money on deliberating this legislation! Seth Damon is from a small populated chapter, yet he is dictating to the Navajo Nation what his lifestyle prefers.

The Navajo people should not be made to bow down to the LGBT's demands!

Please do NOT even think of addressing this legislative!

To each council delegate; your normal constituents do not support this legislation 0139-23!

We pray that you oppose this legislation. It's not a Dine' option!

Ahxe'hee for your time and attention to our input.

Registered voter for 46 years

Ts'ah Bii Kin Chapter

Martha Tate

Sent from my iPhone

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# Legislation 0139-23

edward scott <cheiyo@yahoo.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 10:16 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Please vote no to support marriage between man & woman.

Thank you,

Edward Scott  
Voting member of Leupp Community  
Leupp, Az.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

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# Untitled

Evelyn Edgewater <evelynedgewater07@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Legislation 0139-23

Please don't pass this same sex marriage. God made man and a woman, and not man and man or a woman and a woman.  
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# Legislation 0139-23

Buddy Joe <buddysjoe10@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

To: Navajo Nation

It is vital to protect the sanctity of marriage, the family unit, and openness to life.

The Navajo Nation should be a continuation of traditional values as it is what the elders want and would benefit future generations.

Anything that goes against the natural order, the way Creator made things, destroys sacred marriage and the family unit and closes the door to new life.

The Navajo Nation is sovereign and should not bow to ideas that go against fundamental and traditional values. I hope and pray this is not passed for the sake of the people and children.

From: a concerned member.

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# Untitled

Raymond Yazzie <raymondyazzie51@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

We as you ,, council delegate need to stop this same sex marriage,, thank you.

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# Same sex marriage

Janie Yazzie <janie.yazzie@yahoo.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Not for it

Sent from my iPhone

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# Legislation 0139-23

Alyssa Dalgai <adalgai23@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Demanding churches to marry same sex is not right. Just as businesses have the right to refuse service, churches should also have that right. In a lot of churches, they require counseling before marriage and are taught what marriage is. Marriage is a not taken lightly before God. Marriage was designed for a man and a woman, so that they may be fruitful and have children. As a bible believer, no where in the Bible does it speak about same sex relationships. I am against same sex marriage. Thank you for your time. WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

# Untitled

Wayne Benton <wbenton60@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Legislation 1039-23

My comment on this legislation. I am against this. I believe in Marriage is sacred between a man and a woman. This was created by God and is written in the Holy Bible. We don't have to perform same sex marriage in any churches, which is not in right standing with God.  
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# Untitled

Vera Van Winkle <vvanwinkle4949@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Legislation 0139-23

I'm against this.

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# Legislation 0139-23

mcplatero1212@gmail.com

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

"A marriage is between a man and a woman. A Holy Matrimony. That is totally wrong. These man and Woman were born a man and women when they came into this world when they came out of their mother's womb. This reflects back on parents, how did we raise our children? If we had lectured and nurtured them the right way. I believe this would had been a different story. We are the largest Indian tribe, what a shame to hear of this coming on to our tribe. I'm sorry, I'm against same sex marriage. I don't approve. Mrs. Marita C. Platero

Sent from my iPhone

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# Untitled

Patrick Roan <beach7nut4@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Why! That's not right, we're navajo, who do they think they are, "no way John Wayne"

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# Untitled

Thelma Garcia <garciathel59@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Not voting for same sex marriage i say no

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# Untitled

Al Scott <alscott1960@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Leg 0139-23

This is regarding the above legislation proposed. We are against Same sex marriage. Please hold to our beliefs as man and woman marriage as it should be. Thank you for your understanding of keeping our marriage law as God ordained it man and woman. A Scott

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# Legislation 0139-23

Lee Begay <lee\_bgy@yahoo.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Please vote no on this legislation. Same sex marriage is not part of Navajo culture.. it should be voted by the people not like this.

Sent from my iPhone

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# Same sex marriage

Dianabelle Kercheva-Charley <d.k.charley89.dkc@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I, strongly disagree with same sex marriage... especially amongst our native sacred ppl.. I vote against it...  
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# Legislation 0139-23

matilda keams <msugkeams@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I believe that our culture doesn't allow same sex marriage. Doo'da! It is wrong, wrong, wrong! Just because the rest of the world thinks it's okay that doesn't mean we should. Let's take a stand for what we believe is right. NO to same sex marriage. WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

# Legislation 0139-23

Eugene Platero <platero7@icloud.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

My fellow leaders we voted y'all in for a better future for the Navajo people, I'm a pastor of a church and the Legislation you about to approve is a abomination to God, and I ask you leaders of our Nation to vote NO to legislation 0139-23 thank you and God bless y'all

Sent from my iPhone

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# Abomination

Stan Burbank <stan.nurbank@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

What this is... Is abomination to what God has intended for human beings... Man and women.. Adam and Eve.. Not Adam and Steve. So I'm sure you guessed by now, the whole thing about same sex marriage doesn't settle with me... First it's this ...then what else is next.. marijuana dispensary and even as far as legalizing liquor sales... So I'm just stating the obvious. So with that said.. I'm just gonna leave you with that.

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# Legislation-0139-23

cee young <iamdinenative22@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I do not support and agree to Repealing 9 N.N.C. § 2(C) of the Diné Marriage Act of 2005. I believe marriage should be between one man and one woman. Marriage is sacred and needs to be kept as a union between one woman and one man, which God designed from the beginning of creation.

If we, as the Navajo Nation, honor God's plan for us, he will cover us with his grace and protect us.

Let us not conform to false beliefs & teachings and follow the rest of the world. Let us keep our Navajo Nation under God's grace.

With the upmost respect that our Navajo Nation leaders will keep our nation indivisible @ under God.

With Prayers and hope,

Mrs. Christine Young

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# Legislation 0139-23

avee arthur <withbasicfaith@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

No to same sex marriage

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# No to same sex marriage

Sam Hubbard <samnavajo@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Dear Navajo Nation Council,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the recent approval of same-sex marriage on the Navajo Nation. As a concerned member of the community, I believe it is crucial to address the potential implications and consequences of this decision.

First and foremost, I would like to emphasize that my intention is not to discriminate against any individual or group based on their sexual orientation. I firmly believe in the principles of equality, respect, and human rights for all. However, I am deeply concerned about the potential impact of legalizing same-sex marriage on the traditional values and cultural fabric of the Navajo Nation.

The Navajo Nation has a rich cultural heritage that has been preserved for generations. Our traditions and customs have shaped our community's identity and provided a strong foundation for our way of life. Marriage, as an integral part of our culture, holds great significance and is deeply rooted in our traditions. By introducing same-sex marriage, we risk diluting and potentially eroding these longstanding values that have played a vital role in shaping our identity as a sovereign nation.

Moreover, it is essential to consider the potential impact of same-sex marriage on our younger generations. As we navigate the challenges of preserving our traditions in a rapidly changing world, it is crucial to provide a clear and consistent message to our youth regarding the values and norms upheld by our community. The approval of same-sex marriage may create confusion and conflict within the younger generation, as they try to reconcile the teachings of our cultural heritage with the changing social landscape.

Additionally, I am concerned about the potential legal and jurisdictional challenges that may arise from the approval of same-sex marriage. Our legal system is deeply intertwined with our tribal sovereignty and cultural norms. Introducing a new legal framework without thorough consideration and consultation with the community could lead to unintended consequences and challenges that may undermine the stability and harmony of our nation.

In light of these concerns, I respectfully request the Navajo Nation Council to reconsider the approval of same-sex marriage and initiate a broader discussion within the community. This discussion should involve all stakeholders, including community leaders, elders, and individuals from diverse backgrounds, to ensure that the decision aligns with the wishes and values of the majority of the Navajo people.

I firmly believe that we can find a balanced approach that respects the rights and dignity of all individuals while preserving our cultural heritage and traditions. By engaging in a thoughtful and inclusive dialogue, we can work together to find a solution that upholds the principles and values that have shaped the Navajo Nation for centuries.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope that my concerns are taken into account, and I remain hopeful that we can find a resolution that respects the diverse perspectives within our community.

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# Same sex marriage

Daniel Armfield <nabahidan@yahoo.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I do not agree with this proposal. Navajo's need to stand firm and proud of our heritage.

Sent from my iPhone

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# No same sex marriage

Ferlin Nez <ftn\_25@icloud.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I reject the same sex marriage! There is no future in it!

Sent from my iPhone

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As a voter of Navajo Nation :. at Eastern Agency I stand against the same sex man to man and woman to woman the Bible teach us in Genesis 2: 24 man and woman to marriage,not man to.man, also 1 Corinthians 11:9 woman are made love her husband'

James Eaton <[eatonjames79@gmail.com](mailto:eatonjames79@gmail.com)>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To:comments <[comments@navajo-nsn.gov](mailto:comments@navajo-nsn.gov)>;

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# Untitled

Emery Jackson <ejackson@cedarusd.org>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Legislation 0139-23

Please, don't let this pass, our Navajo people have suffered enough of outside influence excessively in the last several decades to change many ways to live a life on the reservation. This type of life is so wrong to become part of Navajo culture. No, no to same marriage.

Thank you.

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# Legislation 0139-23

Judy Peters <judy.peters52@yahoo.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Hello. I am submitting my comments about this legislation to repeal traditional marriage, and to recognize same sex marriage in the Navajo Nation. I'm against this legislation due to my belief in traditional view of marriage between a man and woman. I believe if this legislation is passed, it will cause churches to be pressured into conducting these same sex marriages and forcing clergy to violate their beliefs and teachings from the Bible about how marriage is between one woman and one man. This type of progressive legislation is not good for our nation. Please consider my comments in regards to this legislation. Thank you.

Judy Peters,

community member of Sanostee, NM.

Email address is [judy.peters52@yahoo.com](mailto:judy.peters52@yahoo.com)

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# Legislation 0139-23

martha semallie <martasemallie@icloud.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Certainly, this is not important to our Navajo Nation. We were made and born as man and a woman.

Absolutely-NO

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# Legislation 0139-23

Michele Scott <tolikanscott@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Regarding the impending approval of same sex marriage on the Navajo Nation, Legislation 0139-23.

As members of the Navajo Nation from Tólikan (Sweetwater) in Northeastern Arizona, we wholeheartedly condemn and forbid this proposal!

1. We do NOT follow the rest of the country! We are a separate nation!
2. It is prohibited according to the bible and identified as an abomination! "You shall not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is an abomination." Leviticus 18:22
3. In the traditional and cultural aspect, same sex is also considered an abomination because it created all the demonic monsters according to historical stories.

Do you not know when you allow and permit such disdainful behavior that you allow all kinds of evil onto our nation, communities and families?

Don't we have enough evil already with kidnapping, abortion, domestic violence, drugs and alcoholism, etc.?

And the offices of the Navajo Nation repeatedly state, "We are a sovereign Nation."

Then, why are we following the lgbtq agenda? This group is an occult and is not peaceful and are NOT seeking equality. They are after our youth and children to destroy their god-given identity.

And many leaders claim to want to keep our Navajo Traditions and cultures alive? By approving this occult to enter our youth and children's lives?

This lgbtq is the laughing stock of America from foreign nations right now! And you want the Navajo Nation to be included?

You are Navajo Nation leaders and you will be held accountable for every action and support taken. Accountable to Almighty God!

We want our Navajo Nation to regain civility and respect. For the Navajo Nation to even consider legalizing same sex marriage is embarrassing and out right disdainful!

Just because the rest of the nation is doing it doesn't mean our nation has to! Our traditions and cultural roots is what sets us apart from the rest of the world!

Respectfully In Christ,

Michele Scott and Family

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# Legislation 0139-23

Teeple, Emma <emma.teeple@intel.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Don't approve please. This is against God's commandment Romans 1:26

Sent from my iPhone

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# Legislation 0139-23

Red <rednwater@ymail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

To whom it may concern,

My name is Sharon Cornelius and I am 61 years old and enrolled 4/4 Navajo. I am deeply concerned about the legislation to approve same sex marriage. I am against this proposal.

I grew up in the traditional manner on the Navajo Reservation just east of Shiprock, NM.

I grew up with the old traditions in the time the majority of the people still spoke Navajo. When the elderly were fully dressed traditionally and adorned in turquoise. All my grandparents only spoke Navajo. I know what it was to be raised traditionally.

We also went to the medicine men for our troubles and at times to a church.

I sat in many ceremonies and among the elderly in their chatter. Never did I hear of homosexuality and queerness as a sacred way of living. It was shameful to our people. Something that was hidden and that life was equated with being out of balance.

I never heard of being two spirited as a positive but that it was shameful.

How are we to progress as a matriarchal society if we give in to the dominant society's woke demands. Why do we have to give in to everything to be considered civilized?

We will disturb our children even further. We will pay for this in the future if this legislation moves forward and your administration will be responsible.

I have a son who is transgender and I love him dearly but I will not give into his demands because he "feels" a certain way. It is an emotionally based movement and anyone who disagrees with them is vilified as a hater. This makes no sense.

This alignment of people can choose to love whomever but I don't want to be forced to accept a taboo as natural.

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## RE: Legislation 0139-23, Same Sex Marriage

Nora Jean <norajeane0012@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

There is in only one God. He is the Creator. He created a Man and a Woman. If we pass this legislation we are going to hurt our children. We are supposed to love children! We are already destroying our children by not disciplining children. They are walking all over their parents and grandparents. Wrong is wrong. Right is right. There is not in between. Our teaching are wrong. Now we allowing a girl to be a boy and a boy to be a girl. God is the Creator not us human. If we allow this same sex marriage. I guarantee there will be more crime, and suicide for our children in the future. Even we allowed it. We are putting other people's lives in danger. We hear about suicides every second. I am against the approval of the Legislation 0139-23, Same Sex Marriage on the Navajo Nation

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# Legislation 0139-23

Marilee Ellingson <marilee.ellingson16@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Please don't pass this legislation.

Marilee Ellingson

Sent from my iPhone

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# Untitled

Ray Nephew <nephewrayy369@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

To comment on same sex marriage on the Navajo Reservation. I believe that marriage is only between a male and female. That is all got to say.

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0139-23

Ray Whitehair <raywhitehair@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I oppose this legislation

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# Legislation 0139-23

Eva Blackwater <eva.blackwater@icloud.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:25 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I vote no.

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0139-23

Lolita Skeets <lgrace.skeets2020@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:25 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

PLEASE, do not approve same sex marriage. It's not right, it's a mental condition. Thank you.

Lolita Grace.

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# Legislation 0139-23

JENNIFER ROUBIDEAUX <jenirou@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:25 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I'm registered to vote at Huerfano Chapter and I don't agree with this new change to marriage. Please keep the Marriage law of 2005.

The new law is giving exception to traditional marriage ceremony because of traditional belief this exception should also be given to the church and clergy, that they are exempt from performing same-sex marriage.

Thank you,

Jennifer Roubideaux

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# Legislation 0139-23

Molly Sloan <mollysloan03@icloud.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:25 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Sent from my iPhone I oppose the same sex marriage. It is sure not right, a lot of us have a belief against this subject. What is our Navajo Nation going to become if this legislation is passed?? Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. From the NaaTsis Aan community.

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This note is in regards to legislative 0139-23

Raymond Long <rayofhope4031@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:25 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Our Nation is under attack with this same sex marriages issue. It is against the Law of God. God says in His WORD, it is an abomination. Leviticus 18:22 - " You shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female; it is an abomination." Please disapprove this awful act against God our Creator. It will only weaken our Navajo Nation and our native families. Thank you  
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I am against same sex marriages!. Concerning our native forefathers ancestors we are not to live that kind of life style. . Ther

Bessie H.B Daw <granny75d@icloud.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:25 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Sent from my iPhone

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# Legislation0139-23

Laura Peter <l.purplerose@yahoo.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:25 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I'm against this same sex marriage I am a cristian woman please don't past gay marriages

Sent from my iPhone

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# Legislation 0139-23

Willie Holiday <willieh@unhsinc.org>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:26 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

What did our grandparents teach us about a man and a woman.  
It is also written in our Bible.  
God made a man and God made a woman from the man.

We should be respectful for our teachings.

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0139-23

Sandy Dennison <lilnmnavajo@yahoo.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:26 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

To whom it all concerns (delegates)

I heard that there is possible approval of same sex marriage on the Navajo Nation. What's next transgender approval. We come to where we (all) don't recognize our beliefs of our forefathers both traditional and other religions. It has become more of who likes and approves me among our leaders and the family values has been lost among the way.

I am saddened as I've seen many young and old who chose these lifestyles and eventually has many mental issues of being accepted and accepting themselves. Some chose suicide because their own life is a lie. We as people have been accepting these common issues and not teaching about life values and it has consumed our people. Why, do we say Navajo tradition when it never was. What would our forefathers think of our own people especially those who sacrifice their lives in the long walk to WW 11. My heart breaks on our world. No family values in tact anymore. If you still have values in your life and the lives of our young people you would think hard and say no to this approval. Let us reach the people whose lives are misplaced of their indecisive lifestyle and get to the root of the problem. I know of several individuals in my circle who had become gay or lesbians lifestyle and had some trauma in their youth as molestation. If we, had more people talking and consulting and loving them their life would be more hopeful. Thanks for hearing and please don't disappoint me. May we all walk in beauty.

Sincerely, Sandy Dennison  
Upper Fruitland NM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

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# Untitled

Gloria <gloriayazzie707@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:26 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Please don't pass the law on same sex marriages... GOD'S WORD is against it also...I am against that law being pass. Thank you for letting me being heard..

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# Untitled

Brian Begay <blbegay.bb@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:26 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I being sound mind and will declare same sex marriage is an abomination to our Native Tribe and the Holy Bible.

Focus more on Alcohol and Drug abuse amongst our Beautiful People.

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# Same sex marriage

Mary Yazzie <marywyazzie@icloud.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:26 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I vote to disapprove.

Sent from my iPhone

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# NO on same sex marriage for our Navajo nation

Winifred Mike <mrswcmike777@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:26 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

It's simple God made a man and a woman to multiply. If you all fear God I suggest you DO NOT let this same sex marriage come to our people, NO!!! You will face God when the time comes, you will be judged. If you are righteous in God's eyes, you will make the right decision. We are chosen people of the natives. God created us to lead our Nation to victory. Please open your eyes. I trust that you will pray about this and we too will b n prayer for you. Be a separated unique tribe that God chose us to be. Much blessings my brothers and sisters.

Sincerely,

WynMyk

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# No to marriage to sane sex marriage

Rosalie Nez <rosalienezcm@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:26 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

The bible says "Man and Women" is to be married, NOT man and man nor women and women.

Obey our Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

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0139-23

Rose Gillis <[rmgillis@nnchapters.org](mailto:rmgillis@nnchapters.org)>

Wed 6/28/2023 9:05 AM

To: comments <[comments@navajo-nsn.gov](mailto:comments@navajo-nsn.gov)>;

I'm opposing Legislation 0139-23 for the following reasons. The Navajo traditional teaching says that man and woman create our future. Having same sex marriages will not produce our future children. The current OPVP's motto is Yideesk aadi Nitsahakees. Having same sex marriages will not allow us to have a future due to same sex not being able to reproduce.

Sent from Mail for Windows

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# Legislation 0139-23

Linda Curley <dazhone@hotmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 2:02 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Please do not allow this legislation to pass. NO same-sex marriage!

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# Legislation 0139-23

Mark Oracion <msoracion@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:08 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I'm asking that you vote no on this legislation.

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# Legislation 0139-23

Sherita C <sheritaclitso@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:08 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Hello,

I am voting against this for our Native American people.

Sherita Clitso

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# Comments on Same Sex Marriage

Dac Li <slee13aloha@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:08 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Good Morning,

My name is Stacey Lee, I would ask that you all would be vote no against same sex marriages. This is not the dine or way of life. Marriages should only be kept between a man and a woman. All my life growing up, not one elder or teacher told any stories about men being with men or women with women. It was Father sky and Mother Earth. Even our creator intended it to be man and lady he created for each other to continue life. The proud should not be part of the Dine people too. Scriptures says in the following;

-Proverbs 11:2 "When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom."

-Proverbs 16:5 "The LORD detests all the proud of heart. Be sure of this: They will not go unpunished." -Proverbs 16:18 "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."

So please say no to same sex marriages. May Good bless and be with each of you.

Thank you,

Stacey Lee

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# Legislation 0139-23

Angie White <angie38white@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:08 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

To whom it may concern,

I would like to oppose against same sex marriage within the navajo nation.

Thank you,  
Angie

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# Legislation 0139-23

Ellson Bennett <ebgov@yahoo.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:08 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

My voice is No on Legislation 0139-23.

Our Native people have always believed, not just the Navajo People, in Natural Procreation and many of our beliefs and teachings have come from Nature. When we go against our Natural Laws it will always bring harm to us. There was a reason why our Creator did not allow us to go against Natural Laws to protect us from any sickness or harm or even death. This belief is taking our Navajo Values and Beliefs and twisting the Truth of our Culture and the Truth of our livelihood into something that is not right nor according to the Natural Laws. The only teaching I see from our Navajo ways is Male Hogan and Female Hogan. With our livestock, our horses, our cattle, and sheep there are no transgender there, nor homosexual relations there including our Rez Dogs. They all live by the natural laws set forth by the Creator. The Wedding Basket teaching also honors the Biological Male and Female, and the traditional teaching also teaches that the twin spirit is the Hermaphrodite, having been born with both genitalia Biologically. The 'Asdzáá Nadléehe teaching is referring to the seasons of life and not a man turning into a woman or vice versa. I am a Christian I believe in the Biblical ways but I also honor my Navajo Cultural teachings as well and I don't want in any way our Traditional Values twisted at all. I have even taught my Kid's Biblical Values as well as our Navajo Traditional Values. I have also seen how America the United States has adopted this belief and it has ruined people and caused much hurt and I do not wish to see our Nation become the same way with confusion and loss of identity and become a lost people. We are Navajos and we should continue to protect our Culture, our Navajo Ways of Life for that is what makes us a sovereign Nation.

I thank you Council for all that you do for our Nation and I am continually praying for you all and thank you for hearing my voice.

I respectfully say No to this legislation 0139-23.

Ellson Bennett

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# Concerning Legislation 0139-23

Marcus Etsitty <perrycostner@yahoo.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:09 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Hello,

I am writing to you to think on and take into account the actions this would bring. By passing this into law, it will directly impact the freedom of religion that the current Navajo Bill of Rights guarantees. It's a dangerous thing. The council needs to greatly consider the consequences. Marriage is a God given establishment. It is a covenant between a male and female. Between a man and a woman. Not same genders.

Genesis 2:15-25 states the reason why God instituted it in the first place.

1 Corinthians 6:9-10 explains what happens with those who disobey God's laws.

Leviticus 18:22 explains that kind of lifestyle is a detestable sin.

1 Timothy 1:8-11 explains the differences for law, regardless if man thinks they can change or alter laws, mankind cannot change God's law. He is too powerful! God is Omniscient, Omnipresent, & Omnipotent. He is the Alpha & the Omega. The First & the Last.

Isaiah 43:10 says "... believe in me, and understand that I alone am God. There is no other God— there never has been, and there never will be".

Isaiah 44:6 says " This is what the Lord says—Israel's King and Redeemer, the Lord of Heaven's Armies: "I am the First and the Last; there is no other God".

Isaiah 45:18 says " For the Lord is God, and He created the heavens and earth and put everything in place. He made the world to be lived in, not to be a place of empty chaos. "I am the Lord," He says, "and there is no other".

Isaiah 45:22 the Lord says " Let all the world look to me for salvation! For I am God; there is no other".

Deuteronomy 4:39 says " "So remember this and keep it firmly in mind: The Lord is God both in heaven and on earth, and there is no other".

Why does the council and the Navajo Nation president go along with the worldly ideas? Why does the council and the Navajo Nation president not have a fear of God or think their actions won't affect us as a whole? When the Israelites violated the laws against God and started thinking "my way is all that matters", God let them be taken into captivity. God's judgement came on the nation of Israel. Our nation will be under condemnation if this is passed. We need a strong council, not a weak one. We need a strong leader, not one who folds to radical ideas.

With all this said, I pray that this bill should be taken lightly. This bill must not be enabled. I pray that you will read my comments and take all other concerns seriously. There is still time to choose rightly. There is still the right way to lead the people of the Navajo Navajo. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
M. Etsitty

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# Legislation 0139-23

James Fredy <alchini04dogs@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:09 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Good morning ladies and gentlemen, greetings my leaders, please hear my comment on the Legislation. We're in troubling times worldwide, at this time we need to stand together on solid foundation, spiritual, emotional and physical. The Bible has been that Solid Foundation before time, so I'm asking that we Don't rush into something that goes against spiritual morals and physical decay. I believe no one is perfect, we all have come short/failed, all of us are judged by our actions choices, by GOD'S Grace we now live. So I ask you reconsider this legislation, every action/choice carries not only consequences here now but for Eternity. Thank you praying for you, James Fredy

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# Legislation 0139-23

Carissa Tsosie <carissa.tsosie@icloud.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:09 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I do not believe same sex marriages were ever practiced in the Navajo Nation and do not think is in our culture or tradition. As a Christian believer it is very definitely against my belief as I believe in total truth of God's word, the Bible. Male & Female were created to be together in marriage & have dominion over the world.

Sent from my iPhone

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0139-23

Linda Yazzie <lindayazzie10@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:09 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Please vote on same sex marriage on the Navajo Nation. It is an abomination unto God!!  
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# Vote on same sex marriage

Alice Kinlichee <afkrun@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:09 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Good morning, We CANNOT allow this vote to approve. I am adamantly opposed to same sex marriage. It dissolves the family unit that has been under attack especially with the big move on Lgbt.

Marriage is with a man and woman as stated in the Bible. The children who the Navajo Nation has said is our future, are put in a state of confusion.

Do Not allow this vote to legalize.

We need to stand by God given principles.

Thank you.

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0139-23, keep law as is

Beverly Nez <stacks999@yahoo.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:09 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I'm concerned that approval of legislation will add more problems, which is against the beliefs of most churches. Majority of Navajos do not want gay marriage.

Marriage is ordained by God to be man and woman.

Do not add more problems than what we have now.

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# Legislation 0139-23.

Ramona Kasper <Ramona\_kasper@hotmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:09 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I VOTE: NO

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# Legislation 0139-23

Merrill Jones <chiefbeastjones@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:09 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

This is in opposition to this legislation. We don't need to follow the immoral failures of the Biden administration. Same sex relationships and marriages will only contribute to the further breakdown of the nuclear family, which is a male father and female mother and their children. The Navajo Nation does not have to affirm by legislation this anomaly. Our tribe has enough struggles as it stands now. Legal recognition of same sex marriage will lead to further moral and spiritual decline. If this is approved, God will allow judgment to fall upon our Nation. You need to look no further than the United States to see what has happened so far. Protect our children from this abominable legislation. Don't make our children fall prey to this evil agenda that comes straight from hell.

"That men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that there is no one besides Me. I am the LORD, and there is no other, the One forming light and creating darkness, causing well-being and creating calamity; I am the LORD who does all these." Isaiah 45:6-7.

"Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap." Galatians 6:7.

Pastor Merrill Jones

Church of the Nazarene

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# Legislation 0139-23

theran808@gmail.com

Wed 6/28/2023 4:09 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Dear Mr. President,

Good morning. My name is Theran Etsitty and I am a member of the Aneth Chapter, in the Shiprock district. I am writing in opposition to the proposed legislation 0139-23. Please DO NOT endorse it. I do not believe that it will improve or promote a way of life that elevates the Diné people. I am sure that there are other avenues of "inclusion" that do not resort to such extremes. Again, please do not endorse Legislation 0139-23, Mr. President. Thank you and have a blessed day.

Very Respectfully,

Theran Etsitty

Sent from my iPhone

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# Same Sex Marriage

Char Begaye <charbegaye1988@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:09 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

My comment on this very sensitive issue is that this law needs to be denied and not to be brought up again!!

If Navajo people are so sincere about their "Traditional" values and teachings, this is a no brainer! Same sex marriage was taught against from early childhood. It is NOT OKAY... not only is this a traditional value, but it is AGAINST THE WILL OF GOD.

The Father created man and women for a reason. His creation stands as is Man or Woman. A Marriage is Sacred & Holy and should only be between a Man/Woman, not the Man/Man or Woman/Woman.

We should NOT bring corruption to our Native Land or people. We are already going through difficulty as it is... this will top off the cake in more disastrous storms of life.

Think with Godly Wisdom and not just approve laws based on trying to win favor with people versus doing what is right in the sight of God.

NO SAME SEX MARRIAGE ON THE NAVAJO NATION.... Please do not pass this law!

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# Untitled

Joanne Lewis-Tsinijinnie <standinghorse462@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:09 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I do not support same sex marriages. Please...do not vote yes.

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# Legislation 0139-23

San Juan Baptist Association <sanjuanbaptist@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:09 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

We are a church of the San Juan Baptist Association of 33 churches. of San Juan County is against the sam sex marriage.

Please accept us we are **AGAINST** the same sex marriage we are not supportive we stand on biblical standard which says only a man and woman can be married to honor him. Please do not sign for it.

You know as a navajo we are told to be aware of things like that. Our elders stood on the teaching that women and men should be married.

Prayers for you all!

AGAINST!!

Thanks

--

*Thank You, God Bless and Have A Great Day!!*

Email: [sanjuanbaptist@gmail.com](mailto:sanjuanbaptist@gmail.com)

San Juan Baptist Association

1010 Ridgeway Place, Farmington, NM 87401

Phone: (505) 327-4530 Fax: (505) 327-0604

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# Vote NO on Legislation 0139-23

JLane Hardy <jlanehardy@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:09 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

As more and more ppl identify as two spirit traditional couples will become a minority, eventually leading to a smaller and smaller population. How will clanship work? It will only open the floodgates and decency and our tradition will be a dream!

The Navajo Nation faces a critical juncture on our history as we decide the fate of our future. We only have to look at the example of the United States and the trajectory that the nation is on to determine if this is right for us. We have always said we are sovereign, but we are heavily influenced by the nation that we are situated in, whether we agree with its politics or not. Many of these teachings are contrary and an indoctrination of Public schools and western "progressive" ideas which stomp on our traditional beliefs.

Looking at the current state of the United States since giving marriage rights to the two spirit population we can see the overt sexualization being pushed on not only us BUT our children. Those who are over 40, grew up with grandparents who were VERY discreet about sex and sexuality. There were Navajo teachings that emphasized the importance of Private matters such as sex between a man and woman, and an even more distain for those who claim to be "two spirit". There is a purpose for not giving "two spirits" the same rights as traditional marriages, that's because our ancestors knew that if we did we would eventually become EXTINCT!!! Two men and two women cannot carry on our clans with their own DNA, how do you determine clanship? Many might claim they can adopt or do IVF but that is not even an option for people of low income demographics such as ours. We don't even have enough Navajo people to adopt our own Navajo children. Every year MORE and MORE people identify as "two spirit", which will only decrease our population.

The floodgates have already open in the US, we have people who are now chanting "We are coming for your children!" At these so call Marches going on this month all over the country. We have men walking naked in the streets licking their lips at children and trying to normalize pedophilia and soon it will be bestiality. This is a warning that this will eventually attract the worst of the worst, soon we will be voting on accepting marriage between an adult and a young child, or an animal.

This is the slippery slope of human decency and ORDER, the order that we were taught growing up.

Thanks!



Janell Hardy of Cedar Ridge,AZ

Western Agency

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# Legislation NO: 0139-23

SHELDON SLIM <sslim1783@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:10 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

To whom it may concern,

In regards to "0139-23", please do not vote "yes" and change our laws for traditional man and woman marriages. Uphold our Diné Marriage Act of 2005.

Sincerely

Sheldon R. Slim

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# Legislation 0139-23

Sherry Anderson <sheri\_billy462@outlook.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:10 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

To whom it may concern, I totally oppose to this legislation, what has happened to our Dine' philosophy? Our cultural? We all know this is wrong so wrong that it troubles our Nation. It shakes us to the core to allow such immoral acts.

Even the medicine men know it's wrong! It is worst than anything that has happened and allowed in our society, next thing we know you'll allow other immoral acts and make it a law. From the beginning of time even before we were born or our generation it has always been man and woman to come into marriage not man to man, woman to woman. Come on wake up!

We were born and identified as one gender, male or female, it was never allowed or confused to allow same sex marriages, same gender marriages. Even the Bible has been specific from the beginning of time, a man shall marry a woman and that has been the teaching from our ancestors. I don't think there is a story where a Navajo man married another Navajo man or a Navajo woman marry another Navajo woman, NO!

The world has changed so much in the last three years that we no longer hold morals. Picture this, two men having a Navajo traditional wedding are you going to allow this or you going to demand that churches marry them? You see two women having Traditional Navajo wedding, it is unethical, disgraceful, disrespectful and outright disgusting.

I hope you don't bombard the churches to marry the same sex marriages, if you allow this then let it be put on you all to marry them in your own cultural setting or even the courts, this is totally absurd and ridiculous. Why is the Navajo Nation influenced by the outside world, who is pushing this agenda and why is the Nation even entertaining this?

There are so many other issues and needs at hand, if you allow same sex marriage you are wiping out the next generation, same sex marriage are not capable of reproducing/repopulating the history of the Dine' people. They can't bring new life meaning children, what in the world are we setting? Yes I understand there are people who want to change their identity, boys wanting to be girls, girls wanting to be boys, man wanting to be woman and woman wanting to be man, going to the extreme of transition becoming transgender, they don't need to marry let them stay as is and give them a certificate of some sort or something. Don't make it a law or change a legislation to appease them.

Dine' people are suffering, there are far more important issues that still needs to be addressed. These should take precedence over this legislation! You have Housing shortages, homelessness is rising, drugs and alcohol still plague our homeland, missing people of all ages, trafficking, kidnapping, water and electricity shortages to homes, lack of law enforcement agencies throughout the reservation, schools, hospitals, elderly needs, food shortages, water rights, land issues and I could go on and on and these have been factors for years. No real solutions or accomplishments have ever been reached through every administration.

The same issues are part of the campaign trail for many, promises for improvement go on deaf ears after election and still Dine' folks remaking in poverty. There is a housing fair coming up this week and it's in Gallup of places with entertainment but what is the purpose? The housing fair should be held at each agency to accommodate those who can't travel or afford to travel, even land issues go on as a big obstacle for most Navajo people who want a small land to build a home on. What is the goal here? What is to be accomplished at this fair? More promises? Or the same information, might as well be honest and tell those in dire straits it's going to take you 10 years to achieve a homesite lease. Or that you have to pay hundred of dollars for each survey and folks can't afford \$1,000 to obtain a small lot for a home.

I don't want to be entertained, I want accomplishment, I want my Nation to help me! I don't want to be told "it's so and so responsibility", "go to their office", the run around. Customer

Service needs a major improvement, process, procedures, protocols need revisits, revisions and rewritten to help folks to complete an application and walk away knowing there is a result. Retrain your employees to be helpful and committed to doing good for their people and not just for a paycheck or to use funds for personal gain. Reassess the Nation and instead of gaining favoritism through ridiculous legislation work on improving the Nation.

Prepare the Nation for drought, food shortages, shelter, law enforcement, farming, water and the future. Establish NAPI in each agencies, build farms, agriculture, begin to store food that Dine' people need. Buy cattle, pigs, sheep, grow wheat, vegetables, build a potato farm, chicken farm which will produce jobs, sell the food at an affordable price and take care of your people. This should be the topic of each agenda to be pushed not same sex marriage.

Consult with farmers from various states, Israel for example, Mormons in Utah they have farms and they are self sufficient. They once lived on these lands and built towns, they can cultivate with any environment. This is my opinion.

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# Untitled

Lorraine Cambeis <lcambeis@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:10 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Legislation 0139-23 Absolutely. NO, NO, NO, NO not ever!!

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# No to Same Sex Marriages

Benson Benally <benallybenenson@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:10 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Good Afternoon,

My name is Benson Benally, I would like to ask that you Vote no against same sex marriages. This is not the dine or way of life. Marriages should only be kept between a man and a woman. All my life growing up, not one elder or teacher told any stories about men being with men or women with women. It was always Father sky and Mother Earth. Even our creator intended it to be man and woman he created for each other to continue life. The proud should not be part of the Dine people too. Scriptures says in the following;

-Proverbs 11:2 "When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom."

-Proverbs 16:5 "The LORD detests all the proud of heart. Be sure of this: They will not go unpunished." -Proverbs 16:18 "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."

We are living in a falling nation, please don't add the Navajo the Dine People to the chaos. So please say No to same sex marriages. May Good bless and be with you and yours always.

Thank you,

Benson Benally

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# Legislation 0139-23

Elrene Yazzie <elrenyazzie@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:10 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Comments on this particular legislation; I oppose this legislation because it is un-natural to humanity and nature itself. We must not tamper with nature. Whether I'm a Christian or not, it is not natural to our surroundings, so I plead do not legalize same-sex marriage. Concerned navajo voter.

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# Legislation 0139-23

lorne ahkee <lornheiser@yahoo.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:10 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

To: Navajo Nation Council and NN President Dr. Buu Van Nygren.

My comments and opinion.

The legislation to approve same sex marriage should not be approved. There many who do not agree with this legislation. There are many who follow Christianity or values that do not align with gay marriage. Many of us are not in the hate reason for this. Please consider other beliefs that reject this same sex marriage belief.

Thank you,  
L. Ahkee  
Navajo Nation Citizen  
Navajo Nation Veteran.

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# Legislation 0139-23

Stan Clitso <stanclitso@icloud.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:10 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

In regards to the above legislation, I am respectfully requesting that the Navajo Nation Council oppose and vote down said legislation.

It is a sad day for the Navajo People and for the future of this Diné Nation when a select few embark on changing laws without forethought and repercussions by their actions.

As a Diné Nation, we are governed by statutes and laws. The primary being Navajo Fundamental Law.

Since time immemorial, the Diné People never discussed or entertained such a topic because it was never relevant up until recently when Western Society began to accommodate the LGBT Community.

In following Western Society's decision in changing laws, you are basically rewriting the Navajo beliefs and traditions. It's a decision that basically makes traditional laws irrelevant.

Think about this...never will our people be indigenous in honoring its values and traditions if this law is passed. Do not let others decide your fate by following their decisions like a lost tribe.

Vote 'NO' and kill this legislation!

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

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# Legislation 0139-23

Callie Bennett <cofaznn@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:10 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

As a young person from the western agency I believe it's best to not accept the legislation 0139-23. I'm hearing from my leaders in my community that it is wrong and I am siding with them. I know the voice of other young peoples are being heard but I feel like the voices of other young people are not being heard. I hope my voice will be heard.

Western Agency

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# Same Sex Marriage-Legislation 0139-23

Verm Harvey <vermjay23@yahoo.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:10 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

President Nygren and Vice President Montoya-Chee and to whom it concerns:

I am submitting my comments about the same sex marriage legislation.

I do not agree with an approval of this legislation.

You will only be opening a door for many issues and problems in our Diné society. Our Diné culture believes in FAMILY; woman and woman, man and man CANNOT reproduce! You will also subject innocent and straight people to go against their faith and beliefs. I do not think this is right. Our people believe in boundaries and respect. Why should we teach our children to go against nature and disobey our Creator? Please, think about what you will willingly impose on our Nation and its people? The chaotic mess that's going on around the world with gay rights is foolishness. Do you really want to bring that on our Nation?

Please, please consider wisely...don't  block the blessings of our people by approving what won't produce familial culture and traditions.

With Respect,

Verm Harvey

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# Untitled

Kevin Marshall <abnsicangu@outlook.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:11 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

No to same sex marriage, not our way.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S22 5G, an AT&T 5G smartphone

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# Legislation 0139-23

Anselm Tom <actom2005@msn.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:11 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Good morning.

I am very disappointed and deeply saddened that our beautiful Navajo Nation is even thinking of approving such a legislation. Please do not jump on every bandwagon this world is pushing. Let us stand on our own two feet and stand on the values and teachings of our unique Navajo culture. Our great-grandparents taught us to be tolerant of the bilagaana ways but that doesn't mean we have to instill that into our own culture as well. Thankfully we have managed not to legalize marijuana on our nation but don't you think this has the potential to destroy families too, especially our precious youth? Please, please... think long and hard about this legislation before you sign your names to it. These types of decisions have serious consequences - baa'át'eeh hólóogo át'e.

Thank you. God bless you.

Sent from Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Sent from Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

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# Legislation 0139-23

Randall Weston <rd.weston@hotmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:11 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

As a member of the great Dine Nation, I strongly disapprove of same sex marriage and of the Dine Nation putting this woke idea into law! We need our next generations to value one man, one woman marriages as our ancestors believed. Stop this invidious legislation now!

Respectfully,

Randall D Weston

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# Legislation 0139-23

Elyssa Romero <elyssaromero2@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:11 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

No same sex marriage

Sent from my iPhone

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# Legislation 0139-23

Quincy <qybenally@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:11 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Navajo Nation should not have same sex marriage. Same sex marriage is a bilagaana concept. Same sex marriage is an abomination to God, and it is not part of our traditional heritage, nor is it in Navajo Creation Stories.

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# Legislation 0139-23

Thomascita Romero <thomascitaromero2008@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:11 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

No to same sex marriage

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0139-23

Kristen Yazzie <kyazzie2006@outlook.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:11 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Good afternoon.

As a Navajo member of the Navajo Nation, I would like to voice my concerns regarding to the upcoming change of the legislation to approve same sex marriage on the Navajo Nation. This is where I will not and see no reason to approve the current legislation which denies same sex marriage on the Navajo Nation. I DO NOT AGREE with this!

I believe in my heart, mind, and soul that same sex marriage whether it is upon male and male and/or female and female, is truly wrong and I see no need for it to be up for changes. I know everyone has their right and are entitled to their own way of life, but as a Christian woman, I will not condone or accept the sin that they choose to live. God's first and greatest commandment is "Thou shalt love the Lord they God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind"-Matthew 22:37-38 and second, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself"-Matthew 22: 39.

God created man and woman and said it was good!

"And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; and the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh." – Genesis 2:21-24

Marriage should be upon a MAN and a WOMAN, because God created MAN and WOMAN.

Therefore, I DO NOT see a change to the legislation which denies and forbids same sex marriage upon a man and man as well as woman and woman.

Thank you for your time.

Kristen Yazzie

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# Legislation 0139-23

Rudie John <rudieljohns@hotmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:11 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

What do our Diné traditional medicine men/women have to say about this?

I think as Diné, we aren't allowed. Our Diné traditional wedding and stories related to our Hozho'jii (blessing way) doesn't allow it.

Please be careful and be mindful that we have laws and we have to preserve our Diné traditional ways of life.

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PO BOX 106 TEEC NOS POS  
HIGHWAY 160 BIA SCHOOL ROAD #5114  
TELEPHONE (928) 656 - 3662

NAVAJO NATION, ARIZONA 86514  
CHAPTER GOVERNMENT BUILDING  
FAX (928) 656 - 3661

## RESOLUTION OF TEEC NOS POS CHAPTER

TNPCH-06-26-2023-R-86

### AN ACTION TO OPPOSE THE 25<sup>TH</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL LEGISLATION NO. 0139-23 ON THE GROUNDS OF THE LACK OF NAVAJO PEOPLES' INPUT AND THE CHAPTER GOVERNMENTS LACK OF CONSENT AND SUPPORT

#### WHEREAS:

1. Pursuant to 26 N.N.C., Section 3 (A) the Teec Nos Pos Chapter is a duly recognized certified chapter of the Navajo Nation Government, as listed at 11 N.N.C., part 1, section 10 and
2. Pursuant to 26 N.N.C., Section 1 (B) Teec Nos Pos Chapter is vested with the authority to review all matters affecting the community and to make appropriate correction when necessary and make recommendation to the Navajo Nation and other Local agencies for appropriate actions; and
3. The Teec Nos Pos Chapter vehemently opposes Legislation 0139-23: *An Act Relating to the Health, Education and Human Services, Law and Order, Budget and Finance, and Naabik'iyáti' Committees and the Navajo Nation Council; Repealing 9 N.N.C. § 2(C) of the Diné Marriage Act of 2005, to Uniformly Recognize All Marriages Within the Navajo Nation; and Amending Other Provisions in Title 9 of the Navajo Nation Code Related to Marriage Within the Navajo Nation*; and
4. On April 22, 2005, the 20<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council unequivocally passed the Diné Marriage Act with a vote of 67-0-0, that unmistakably codified the following language, "Marriage between persons of the same sex is void and prohibited" in Navajo Nation Council Resolution CJN-34-05; and
5. The former Navajo Nation President Dr. Joe Shirley, Jr., vetoed the April 2005 Navajo Nation Council resolution to prohibit marriage between same-sex couples, he wrote to the council that, "It is the responsibility of the Navajo people to raise the question and address it through an initiative – rather than the then 88 delegates determining the outcome;" and
6. The Teec Nos Pos Chapter (*community members*), regardless of faith whether Christians, Native American Church, or Diné Traditional Practitioners and Cohorts, is unified in support that any notion of "same sex" marriage in Navajo society is a blatant violation of morality and righteousness in each of our respective faith and doctrine; and,
7. On March 21, 2022, the former Navajo Nation Council Delegate Eugene Tso (Chinle) introduced Legislation 0054-22: *An Act Relating to Health, Education and Human Services, Budget and Finance, Law and Order, and Naabik'iyáti' Committees and the Navajo Nation Council; Repealing 9 N.N.C. § 2(C) of the Diné Marriage Act of 2005 to Acknowledge and Recognize Marriage Equality Among All People; Amending Common-Law Marriage Criteria at 9 N.N.C. § 4(E); Amending Marriage License Form to be Gender Neutral at 9 N.N.C. § 7; Amending Husband and Wife Section at 9 N.N.C. § 201 et. seq.*; and
8. The Teec Nos Pos Chapter's former council delegate Ms. Charlene Tso was a co-sponsor to Legislation 0054-22 (along with Delegates Eugenia Charles-Newton and Carl Slater), and our

elected representative to the 24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council never informed the constituents of this chapter (as well as Aneth, Red Mesa, To'likan, and Mexican Water) regarding her intent and action to co-sponsor such a controversial legislation and our community input was never sought, thus we view this as a grave disrespect to devoid our consent without our knowledge; and

9. On April 26, 2022, Legislation 0054-22 was withdrawn by the sponsor due to its deep controversy and the overwhelming favor by the 24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation expressing that such action should be put before the Navajo people via a referendum as opposed to 24 member council; and

10. In March 2022, former Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez said, "The Diné Marriage Act is an issue that deeply impacts many of our people, families and our overall society. It's a conversation that should be inclusive of all of our Navajo people and a decision left to the people, especially our elders, not just 24 delegates;" and

11. The Teec Nos Pos Chapter is of a firm belief that the Navajo Nation indeed exerts and exercise its "inherent sovereign powers" to NOT regulate the time-immemorial Diné philosophical values and customs regarding domestic relations that vigorously restricts "same-sex marriage" – a lewd act that is preordain down the path of a coyote-way traveling north toward the permanent doom of the Navajo lifeway; and

12. The Teec Nos Pos Chapter appeals to the sponsor of Legislation 0139-23 and other delegates who support this legislation to heed to the vast Navajo people who do not support this and at a minimum, some form of Town Hall Meeting or Public Outreach or Forum should first be conducted; and

13. The Teec Nos Pos Chapter strictly objects to the adoption of off-reservation and non-Navajo customary values, such as, "same sex marriage," "LGBTQ+" and "Senate Bill 788") into our Diné society; and

14. The Teec Nos Pos Chapter mandates the 25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council to put forth a referendum to recognize that the Navajo People are the governing body of the Navajo Nation, and the People should decide this issue through a referendum; and

15. The Teec Nos Pos Chapter stands with the multitude of thousands of Navajo people that this matter should be presented to the Navajo electorate through a referendum; and

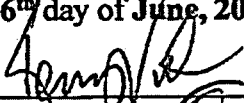
16. Lastly, the Teec Nos Pos Chapter has little faith in the newly elected council delegate to the 25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council to adequately represent our voice and vote on this critical matter, and thus the chapter enacts this resolution independent of our delegate's vote, so to object to Legislation 0139-23.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

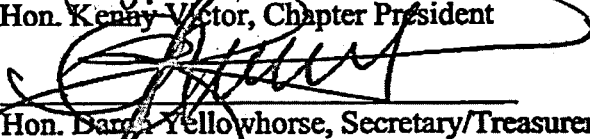
1. The Teec Nos Pos Chapter vehemently opposes Legislation 0139-23; and
2. The Teec Nos Pos Chapter appeals to the 25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council to either table this legislation, so to hold public hearings, town hall meetings, and to garner a full public input before moving forward on this matter; and
3. The Teec Nos Pos Chapter petitions the 25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council to put this highly sensitive matter before the Navajo People via a referendum, thus the people's vote we will respect and accept.

### CERTIFICATION

We, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Teec Nos Pos Chapter at a duly called meeting in Teec Nos Pos, Navajo Nation, Arizona at which a quorum of chapter members was present. Resolution was Motioned by: Edward Dee and Seconded by: Lucinda Tomchee that the same was passed by a vote of 18-in favor, 04 opposed and 02 abstained on this 26<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Hon. Kenny Victor, Chapter President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Hon. Verma Francisco, Chapter Vice-President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Hon. Daron Yellowhorse, Secretary/Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Hon. Curtis Yantio, Council Delegate

#### CHAPTER OFFICIALS

Kenny Victor  
PRESIDENT

Verma Francisco  
VICE PRESIDENT

Daron Yellowhorse  
SECRETARY/TREASURER

Robert Redhouse  
GRAZING OFFICIAL

Curtis Yantio  
COUNCIL DELEGATE

#### ADMINISTRATION

Lucinda Tomchee  
CHAPTER SERVICE COORDINATOR

# Marriage

Regina Chee <rchee.nha@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:11 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Council delegates need to wake up and let it happen so please Disagree. Vote no same sex, so embarrassing 🙄.

Sent from my iPhone

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# Legislation 0139-23

Mabel Whitehorse <mabelwhitehorse414@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 5:12 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I am writing about this legislation and I do not agree to pass this legislation.

With respect,

Mabel Whitehorse

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# Legislation 0139-23

Robert Begay Jr <robertbegayjr5656@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 5:12 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I am writing this thing about same-sex marriage it's a shame to see this when the whole world is committed to this I'm saying this because it's not the way of our People what would our ancestors think about this I think not and besides it's not right in the eyes of the Lord as it says in the Bible so I am against it, I hope man's and the ladies of the committee you will make the right decision.

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# Legislation 0139-23

Shannon Tohtsoni <satohtsoni@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 5:12 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

My response to same sex marriage is No to passing legislation 🙏 Thank You!

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0139-23

Elizabeth Scott <elizabethbenally@yahoo.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 5:12 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

No to recognizing gay marriage! It's an ugly abomination. Marriage is between a Man and a Women.

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# No against same sex marriage

Lena Manheimer <Imanheimer21@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 5:13 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Banned the same sex marriage to legislation 0139-23 from western navajo agency for Joseph manheimer, Wilbert manheimer NO same sex marriage.

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# Legislation 0139-23

Shaun Marshall <marshallshaun1977@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 5:13 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I'm against legislation 0139-23 , cause that's against God's ways

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# Legislation 0139-23

Dawn Charley <apple.blawesome@gmail.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 8:21 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

To whom this may concern:

I simply want to express that if Navajo Nation wants to recognize same sex marriage for two spirited individuals, they need to prepare to recognize polygamous unions as well. Marriage is a sacred union between a single spirit male and single spirit is is Navajo culture as the union of Mother Earth and Father Sky doky. There is no union of mother/mother or father/father in the balance of our world. I am not denying two spirit existence in our Navajo culture either. I know them to be renowned individuals that were keepers of sacred songs and traditions. I have such individuals in my own family. These individuals were once holy people set apart to offer their unique gifts to keep our people in harmony. The case is not so clear now days. To acknowledge two spirt marriage is to bring disharmony to our nation and to open the way for unholy unions and trouble to our nation. This is a secular notion to reconfigure marriage other than one man and one woman.

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# Vote NO to Same Sex Marriage

Freida White <fregasaon@gmail.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 8:21 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Marriage is for men and women who are born with body parts to birth children. That is why our Navajo Nation has increased with born men and women who have been continuing this sacred matrimonial blessing of love.

Same sex Marriage will destroy this family unity. Destruction will be costly because 1) they have to take hormonal drugs and/or undergo operations, 2) they have psychiatric issues that need be dealt with, 3) they have abnormal diseases such as the recent monkey pox which originated among this population, gays and lesbians. All the above destructive costly reasons question the few who are wanting same sex Marriage. The Navajo Nation does not need to follow the non-Navajos. Instead, stand strong to keep the sacred matrimonial blessing between a man birthed as a man and a woman birthed as a woman. Retain sovereignty by voting no to same sex Marriage on the Navajo Nation.

Our Navajo children do not need this lifestyle change to affect their upbringing and success as they progress through all education levels for prime employment opportunities. Today, brothers are commonly assisting parents in caring for young siblings or relatives. This has been common practice years ago and does not make one gay.

Vote No to same sex Marriage. Thank you for your support of the Navajo Nation majority who don't practice the gay or lesbian lifestyle.

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# Legislation 0139-23

Steven Funston <steveffam@gmail.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 8:21 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Legislation 0139-23 is to be kept. As a Navajo from Hogback NM. I am not in agreement with a repeal of Legislation 0139-23. The Native home is a father, mothers and children. Inviting changing policies into our Native homes does not come from foundational teachings we believe and base our people on. These changing trends will pass, and find that we are wise to keep Legislation 0139-23. If you try to move monuments, you need to find out why it was placed there in the first place. Listen to your elders, be strong.

Steven Funston

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# Legislation 0139-23

tommy etsy <etsittytp12@hotmail.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 8:22 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Churches among the Navajo Nation have been servicing the community through many years. People who help build these churches are local communities who support and represent our Nation.

Personally my belief is our Lord God Almighty.

Any religious belief will always continue. Regardless of how much anyone may try to eliminate.

Whether it be traditionally or non traditionally.

There is good in everyone throughout the Navajo Nation. No one shouldn't criticize any individual for disliking.

JEALOUSY is our Nations problem.

Try working together to make our Nation stronger rather than throwing the next person under the bus every chance you get.

Quit following the World. Quit being a SHEEP.

BE A LEADER! Navajo Nation should be the most recognized as HERO'S. Because we our brave individuals who won WWII.

Our Nation won the war. (America could've became China or Germany)

So carry yourselves as LEADERS! Speaking to all that are our councilman, chapter delegates and Presidency.

QUIT settling for LESS. Speak up! Fight the American government to restore every bit of our resources. Everyone making money off of us.

Mining, Oil and Gas.

Majority of those resources should be ours.

All I hear every election is checks non of you have cashed. (Still waiting on change)

Now only change I see is wrongful marriage.

That's definitely one thing that shouldn't even be a concern on building a strong Nation.

In our Lord Jesus Christ name the Navajo Nation shouldve been more advanced, organized and ahead of other Nations.

Instead we are behind. Picking up pieces and taking handouts from the Government we saved during WWII war.

Regain our resources and begin investing, providing jobs and rebuilding the Navajo Nation tribe as TRUE HERO'S...

Thank you,

Commenting behalf of my agency (Shiprock)

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# Legislation 0139-23

leroyshirleyjr@yahoo.com

Thu 6/29/2023 8:22 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Dear Leaders of the Navajo Nation,

This letters is in regards to Legislation 0139-23. I am against this measure of the proposed legislation which I feel goes against Diyin God standards of morality. Nations have suffered judgement against their people which affected them in various measures. I am voicing my concerns regarding the proposed legislation within our Dine government.

Thank you, Leroy Shirley Jr.

Sent from my iPhone

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# Same sex marriage

Samuel Begay <begaysamuel78@gmail.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 8:22 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I am again same sex marriage because God created men and women to marry and to multiply. Same sex marriage should never be allowed.

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# Legislation 0139-23

Arlene Hoskie <auh186@gmail.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 8:22 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Dear Navajo Nation Leaders,

The same sex marriage has been brought forth to the Navajo Nation Legislation. As a Christian, the same-sex marriage is against our religious beliefs. As Navajo Nation Leaders, I strongly encourage you to listen to our Christian values and make the right choice for our people.

The following are the reasons Christians oppose same sex marriage:

Marriage matters to God. God made man and woman. "It says, "For this reason, a man will leave his father and his mother and will live with his wife. The two will become one. So they are no longer two but one. Let no man divide what God has put together" (Matthew 19:4-6).

Marriage was invented by God and not by man. We have neither the authority nor the ability to change what marriage is. "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife and they shall be one flesh" (Genesis 2:24). Applying the same-sex unions alters the very concept of what a marriage is for and what functions it takes.

When we say that a man can be married to a man or that a woman can be married to a woman, we are twisting the word "married" to mean what it cannot mean. If we are using these words, we are making a claim about reality that we know is not true and we are endorsing a lie. The Bible makes it clear that God detest lying or speaking untruths. "The wicked desire the net of evil men; but the root of the righteous yieldeth fruit" (Proverbs 12:12). Leviticus 19:11 says, "Ye shall not steal, neither deal falsely, neither lie one to another." For using this language, we know is deceitful and untrue about an institution created by God is harmful to our neighbors. Words matter to God so that they must matter to us.

Scripture matters to God. As Paul told Timothy, "All scriptures is breathed out by God and profitable for etching for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Scripture matters to God and so it should matter to us.

People matter to God. "Know yet not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived, neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind" (1 Corinthians 6:9).

I pray that you will make the right decision.

Thank you,

Arlene Hoskie

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0139-23

Shirley <surlyzzi654@gmail.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 8:22 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Legislation 0139-23

Please do not approve or do not pass same sex marriages. We are to stand on what's right and not to create confusion among our families, and communities. If we agree to this we are bringing chaos upon our people and allowing others to come and take advantage of marriage. So please think this through.

Thank-You

Sincerely,  
Davis and Shirley Yazzie

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# Untitled

Sara McCabe <sbmccabe55@gmail.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

As I voting Navajo tribal member I do not support same sex marriage. Please do not allow this to pass in the tribal legislation.

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# Re: Legislation 0139-23

Katie John <hdnsprgs7@outlook.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 8:24 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I oppose the passing of this legislation. We as a Navajo tribe have been raised & continue to thrive on K'é. We have been taught the clan system which has both a mom & dad & their parents. How will we continue to live on this type of relationship, family system & so forth of We pass this legislation. It will cause confusion especially for the younger generation. K'é has held our family & nation together. We have our own identity to uphold & go on has a trial nation... this same-sex marriage is not part of our system.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy Note20 5G, an AT&T 5G smartphone

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# Same sex marriage on the Navajo Nation

Miranda Smith <laughlinma76@gmail.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 8:24 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

OPPOSE!

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# Legislation 0139-23

Teresa Joe <teresa.joe91@yahoo.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 8:24 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Hello,

My name is Teresa Joe and I am a full blooded Navajo. It has come to my attention that the Navajo Nation is going to vote on gay marriage. If I had a choice to vote my vote would be no to gay marriage.

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# Legislation 0139-23

Maxine Hoskie <maxinehoskie505@gmail.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 8:24 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I oppose same sex marriage. God made a man & woman Genesis 1:27&28

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# Legislation 0139-23

Patsy Geneeha <patsyagene@yahoo.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 8:24 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Our great grandparent & elders warned & talked to us when we were children to prepared that things will change in our our culture, teaching, learn it & live it that someday our environment & world will be changed. We are loosing our teaching & culture. This sad that this happening on our our reservation. No on legislation 0139-23.

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# Legislation 0139-23

Brenda Hoskie <brenski07@gmail.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 8:24 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

To whom it may concern, I oppose the same sex marriage for our Navajo Nation. Being brought up in a Christian home, we are taught that God made a man and a women for marriage and not the same sex. I fear this would encourage our younger generation to pursue and experience what is not right in the Lords eye. It would bring judgment to our people that would break out in disease from this lewd act.

As 1 Corinthians 7:2 states "Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband."

Don't let this be a curse for our people.

Thank you.

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# Untitled

Tom Wilson <t.wilsonsr69@gmail.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 8:31 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Please read the following scripture to the council "Genesis 19:1-25". (Verse 4-7 says" Before Lot and his guests could go to bed, every man in Sodom, young and old, came and stood outside his house 5 and started shouting, " Where are your visitors? Send them out, so we can have sex with them!" Lot went outside and shut the door behind him. Then he said, "Friends, please don't do such a terrible thing!

God hates sin, therefore I am not interested and not in favor of "Same Sex Marriage" I'll pray for your right decision for the whole Navajo Nation. Thank you

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0139-23

Al Bitsilly <albitsily@gmail.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 8:31 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Sent from Mail for Windows

The marriage vow belongs to a man and woman.!

Do not lie with a man as one lies with a woman, that is detestable.

Leviticus 18:22

“Everyone one who does any of these detestable things -such persons must be cut off from their people. Keep my requirements and do not follow any of the detestable customs that were practical before you came and do not defile yourselves with them. I am the Lord your God.”

Leviticus 18:29

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# Opposing the Same Sex Marriage Proposal

Destiny Laughlin <dlaughlin14@gmail.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 11:46 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

To the Navajo Nation Legislature,

I am writing because I oppose this move to approve same-sex marriage. Not only is this about my own preference but I am thinking of our future Navajo generations. This is a lifestyle choice for many people who choose to like the same sex. It is a lifestyle that promotes confusion and I cannot back that. This decision affects more than the current generation but our children as well. They are the ones who will have to deal with the repercussions of having a confused family. Ask the people in this lifestyle and who are pushing for this, how they plan to parent the orphaned Navajo children if they choose to adopt. Ask yourselves, is this even a part of our culture? From my teaching of the Navajo culture, no where was I taught about "two-spirit" people. I feel as though this is a trend. But it should not be a trend that is only being accepted because it pleases the people. Do not make this move just to please people. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

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# Legislation 0139-23

Gilbert Todachine <todachineg@gmail.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 11:46 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

To the Navajo Nation Government. I am writing to let you know that me and my family deeply oppose the legislation mentioned above. I am sure that my concern n thoughts be considered and acknowledged respectfully.

Legislators,

please vote "NO" on this controversial issue.

Thank you very much, and God Bless You.

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## Title 9. Marriage within navajo nation

Irene D.Henio <idhenio71@yahoo.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 11:46 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

MARRIAGE is between Woman and MAN!!!

Same sex marriage undermines the meaning of the traditional family.

MAN Up!!! man, husband, father 's trying to get away from their responsibilities, again. We have children who are hunger for PARENTS. I support a statutory ban on same sex marriage.

I OPPOSE the legalization of same sex marriage in the Navajo Nation.

God Bless Navajo Nation, again.

I.Henio

Gallup, NM. 87301

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

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# Legislation 0139-23

Ida Wilcox <ndn\_ida@ymail.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 3:09 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Good afternoon, the Navajo Nation on voting on a legislation to approve same sex marriage.

I VOTE NO!!!

I'm a 100% Navajo, Baptist Christian and believe in the KJV Bible words from God our creator for man and women

At marriage:

Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

(Gen. 2:24. KJV).”

How WOMAN was made from MAN...

Genesis 2:22-24

22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

23 And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

These Earthly Laws does coincide with with God's will for this world or we will be condemn

Thou shalt therefore obey the voice of the LORD thy God, and do his commandments and his statutes, which I command thee this day  
Deut.27:10 KJV

In closing Love God and love people.

Thank you

# Legislation 0139~23 REPEALING THE DINE' MARRIAGE ACT OF 2005

Ella Wilson <ewilson.myoffice@gmail.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 4:02 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Good afternoon, My name is Ella Wilson; a member of Twin Lakes chapter, Navajo Nation and responding to the Repealing of the Dine' MARRIAGE Act of 2005 . I do oppose this legislation which is beyond my moral beliefs as a Dine' mother, grandmother & great grandmother. I believe in the creation beginnings of a man and a woman where a man & woman can marry, which can result in the natural birth of a child, male or female. This legislation is not in the best interests of the Dine'. Keep this out of the Dine' Nation. This is not in the best interests of our children as they are our future; they do not need any more confusion or controversy in their homes. If necessary these same sex marriages can be performed off the Dine' Nation. I recommend that this legislation be placed as a Referendum on the ballot at the next election so that the Dine' people can vote and decide on this important issue. Most of the people and elders may not be aware of this legislation and 5 days is not enough time to respond . Please be respectful of the Dine' people and rush this legislation through. Thank you for your time.

Ella Wilson

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# Same sex marriage

Phoebe Begay <feebeetoledebegay@gmail.com>

Fri 6/30/2023 9:12 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I don't agree with this. I say No to this!

Sent from my iPhone

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# Legislation 0139-23

Christina Tyler <ckkktso@yahoo.com>

Fri 6/30/2023 9:12 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Good afternoon to our Navajo Nation Legislators.

First of all thank you for your determination to resolve issues and concerns on the Navajo nation. It takes a lot of courage to make tough decisions and the interest of the Navajo people. Being a registered voter and also a member of the Navajo tribe I am writing in response to the Same Sex Marriages on our Navajo Nation.

The values that were brought up in our home and talk to us was to respect our elders, our culture, and to live according to the biblical standards while members of the Navajo nation. The teachings of my grandmother emphasize applying the biblical teaching in our lives and in our families. I respect my family for their teaching which made me who I am today and through the same teaching to pray for our leaders that hold political office positions. With this being said I am submitting this concern to you on same-sex marriages. I am against same-sex marriages and will always stand on the biblical teachings About marriage between a men and women. I pray that you have an understanding of where we stand on marriage which should be always between a man and a woman.

Decisions and discussions such as these between each of you legislatures, only brings me to pray for great leader ship among you while you serve the people of the Navajo nation. I appreciate each and everyone of you and what you do but I also pray that you will hear what I have stated in this email to you about my concern.

Christina Tyler

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# Untitled

Rose Nez <r65nez@gmail.com>

Fri 6/30/2023 9:13 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Legislation 0139-23 I vote NO

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# Legislation 0139-23

Arlene Edd <arlene@shontoedc.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:11 PM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Good morning,

This legislation should be a referendum put before the people not the 25th council.

I hope it's not just up to the Navajo Nation Council and Office of President and Vice-President to decide for the people.

Have a wonderful day!!

Arlene

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# Comment to same sex marriages

Ms. Belle Curtis <mcshonto06@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:17 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

There has been much despair among our nation.  
We have lived with people who are with the same sex.  
It was never an issue for a black and white written document for confirmation.

Why bring this to the table and have people run around and submit comments.  
This issue should be brought forth for our nation to discuss in a timely manner. Rather than forcing the 25th council to decide on a short notice.

What is wrong with our Navajo Nation Administration?  
You guys act like there is no one voice being heard or should be heard. Mind your people. Listen to everyone.

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## Title 9

Carol Loome <kaloloome73@gmail.com>

Tue 6/27/2023 5:17 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Councilman Damon, when did the Dine people become sheep and don't start pushing this pride thing down our throats like the government is doing right now. And your saying there should be no discussion, sounds like our views, values, and voices do not count with this nation government

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# Legislation 0139-23

Benny Wilson <btachiiniw02@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 8:25 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Yá'át'ééh shi naat'áanii,

I just want to comment on the same sex marriage. I am not against people who believe this is ok. This has been voted by the people before that marriage is between a man and a woman. Our world outside of our reservation is completely out of control. They can not even identify what a woman is, so a Nation, why do we follow the insanity that we see. This is against biblical teaching of what marriage is. This should not be forced on us, our children and our future generations. The people has already spoken on this issue. This should not be decided by the council. Thank you.

Benny Wilson

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# Legislation 0139-23

Margie Scott Cseh <shima.msc03@gmail.com>

Wed 6/28/2023 4:11 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

All 50 states in the Union, recognizes same sex marriages which makes this a non-issue for the Navajo Nation. Either the Navajo Nation is trying to make a political statement that could result in making the Dineh a target for the LGBTQ+ activists, or the tribe is getting into the wedding planning business. "Does the Navajo Nation issue wedding licenses?"

I think the council's time would be better spent working on water rights and other resources that would benefit the people of the Navajo Nation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sent from Mail for Windows

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# Legislation 0139-23

Gilbert Singer <[gsinger061560@gmail.com](mailto:gsinger061560@gmail.com)>

Wed 6/28/2023 5:13 PM

To:comments <[comments@navajo-nsn.gov](mailto:comments@navajo-nsn.gov)>;

The rest of Navajo Nation needs to be fully aware of this legislation before proceeding with a vote. Needs to be Tabled for further review.  
Thank you.

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# Legislation 0139-23

Cheryl Yazzie <cbyazzie@yahoo.com>

Thu 6/29/2023 8:31 AM

To:comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

With all due respect to our Navajo Nation leaders, I am asking you to have this legislation be voted on by the Navajo People whom have put you into office and whom you serve. A good leader listens so please listen and a good leader works with their constituents. Work with your people by giving this back to them to decide. Marriage is a most valuable foundation in society. Something of this magnitude should not be decided on by a few individuals for the rest of us.

I don't think you as a Council Delegate will allow your fellow Council Delegate to come into your home and make important decisions for your family so please don't do that to our families. It is not right!

You and I are created by God. Anytime we have to make major decisions concerning our lives, we should go back to God Himself for guidance and answers. He is the source of godly wisdom and love; and these are what leaders should possess.

It is stated that this won't affect the traditional Navajo Wedding ceremony between a man and a woman and there are other methods of marrying. It is very obvious there are churches that are on the Navajo Nation and they have their beliefs also on what a marriage is and what kind of wedding ceremony they allow.

Do you realize that every decision we make in our personal lives and for our people either fall under the category of life or death? Blessings or curses? Do our Navajo Nation leaders really want to carry the burden of deciding this for our people? We want our Navajo People to prosper and flourish in every area of life. The only way I know is to humble ourselves and ask Diyin God to help us. This is not a small matter that is facing us, and it should not even have been a matter to vote on in the first place, so I am encouraging you to not be too hasty in your decisions.

Council Delegates, I am encouraging you to have the Navajo People vote on this. Let your people exercise their freedom of speech. Search your hearts and do what is right. It is not about being popular or liked by people, it is about standing up for what is godly, what is valuable and what is right.

Mrs. C. Yazzie

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LEGISLATION NO: \_0139-23\_\_ SPONSOR: Seth Damon

TITLE: An Act Relating to the Health, Education and Human Services, Law and Order, Budget and Finance, and Naabik'íyáti' Committees and the Navajo Nation Council; Repealing 9 N.N.C. § 2(C) of the Diné Marriage Act of 2005, to Uniformly Recognize All Marriages Within the Navajo Nation; and Amending Other Provisions in Title 9 of the Navajo Nation Code Related to Marriage Within the Navajo Nation

Executive Director, Office of Legislative Services:

Homosexuality is not a topic that is readily discussed within the traditionally confines of the Navajo Nation. Neither is same-sex marriage so these topics can ignite definite pro- and con- responses. When Seth Damon states, in many of his interviews, "...I'm sponsoring is to ensure that all Diné are welcome within the four sacred mountains...", I strongly believe all Diné are welcomed but some may not feel accepted due to various reasons, not only because of their sexual origin.

The Navajo Nation Legislation has explicitly banned same-sex marriage since 2005 and it remains in effect even though attempts to amend this act have failed. A concern with such an important subject is that it is the responsibility of the Council Delegates to inform and have the Navajo people be included in the conversation, be allowed to have their input (more than 5 days), and the decision left to the People, including our Elders, through an initiative, and not just the 24 delegates determining the outcome.

Another point of consideration is the gay community has not really made the 'argument' as to how it 'does not uniformly welcome or support the well-being of *all* Diné' as stated in the amendment? What is heard is "We want what you have, and therefore you should give it to us" but there is nothing stated as to why this is beneficial to the Navajo people, culture, or what possible impact this amendment would have on heterosexual marriage and what the impact would be on children. There is no real information, that I am aware of, about what this amendment would do to the moral preservation of the Navajo Nation, what it would do to religious liberty, what it would do to the mental and physical health of children. The possible consequences to the Navajo Nation as a whole are an important aspect to consider, such as who we are as a People, what we stand for, what we teach our children, what our values and ethics are, etc.!

I believe it is safe to say that most of the Navajo Nation People do not approve of same-sex marriage, but many are uncomfortable about it because, the public perception is if a person feels that way, then they are a bigot or a hater. And if the culture continues to send that message, if our educational system sends that message, which it does, eventually the culture will change and people's opinions will change. When a person is devalued in that manner, you get less of it. When you get less of it, society as a whole suffers. Compelling people to violate their conscience is not permissible or constitutional. Expressing tolerance of people of faith who have a sincere religious belief in favor of traditional marriage, is not acceptance since tolerance should be across the board, in all directions. All people need to freely exercise their faith as part of the First Amendment's protection.

It is already a difficult environment for children on the Navajo Nation today, from the traditional Navajo culture/tradition, as well as from the Judeo-Christian perspective. Marriage is a sacred union between a

man and a woman. What is best for children, is a mother and a father who are the parents of that child, raising that child in a stable, married relationship.

Freedom of religion still needs to be upheld! The amendment does not state specifically how religious groups that oppose same-sex marriage will be shielded from providing "any services, facilities, or goods for the solemnization or celebration of a marriage". Will the amendment also prevent churches and religious nonprofits that decline to recognize same-sex marriage from having their tax-exemption status altered or stripped? Passage of this amendment would put People with certain sincere religious beliefs at greater legal risk.

It is good to see that traditional Navajo weddings are considered sacred and will not be impacted by the possible same-sex amendment. This same decree needs to be extended to those religious groups that oppose same-sex marriages.

One last note, in my experience as I was growing up here in Lukachukai, it was my understanding that "Nádleehí," were consider 'sacred' people, revered and never married. As a child I was introduce to 2 such individuals and they were male. They did perform in a 'female' role by caring for the mother of the family, doing household chores and domestic activities. They never spoke, were quiet and often hidden behind the mother. They brought no attention to themselves.

Do allow the Navajo People to be the final decision-makers of this Amendment!!

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannette M Yazzie  
Registered Nurse, Retired  
PO Box  
Lukachukai, AZ 8657  
Em: [yazbaken2@gmail.com](mailto:yazbaken2@gmail.com)

### **Two-spirit People: Native American Gender Identity, Sexuality, and Spirituality**

Edited by Sue-Ellen Jacobs, Wesley Thomas, Sabine Lang

Dempsey, Pamela (2005-04-23). "Navajo Nation officially bans same-sex marriage". The Independent. Gallup, NM. Diné Bureau. Archived from the original on February 3, 2010. Retrieved January 1, 2010. Same-sex unions are now officially banned on the Navajo Nation. The Navajo Nation Council passed the Diné Marriage Act of 2005 with a 67–0–0 vote on Friday.

### **New bill seeks to legalize same-sex marriage on the Navajo Nation - Noel Lyn Smith**

Farmington Daily Times, March 23, 2022

**THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW SUMMARY**

**LEGISLATION NO.: 0139-23**

**SPONSOR: Honorable Seth Damon**

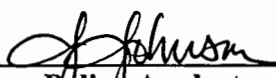
**TITLE: An Act Relating to the Health, Education and Human Services, Law and Order, Budget and Finance, and Naabik'iyáti' Committees and the Navajo Nation Council; Repealing 9 N.N.C. § 2(C) of the Diné Marriage Act of 2005, to Uniformly Recognize All Marriages Within the Navajo Nation; and Amending Other Provisions in Title 9 of the Navajo Nation Code Related to Marriage Within the Navajo Nation**

**Posted: June 23, 2023 at 5:31 PM**

**5 DAY Comment Period Ended: June 28, 2023**

**Digital Comments received:**

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Comments Supporting</b>      | 1) Dr. Wendy S. Greyeyes   |
| <b>Comments Opposing</b>        | 1) David Nahkai<br>2) Rose Calvin<br>3) Dorothy Harjo<br>4) Petition with 27 Participants Opposing<br>5) Niya Braxton<br>6) Edna Braxton<br>7) Candice Joe<br>8) Joanne Wall |
| <b>Comments/Recommendations</b> | 1) Ray Begaye  |

  
 Policy Analyst  
 Office of Legislative Services

July 12, 2023; 1:50 PM  
 Date/Time



# Support Legislation 0139-23: Marriage Equality for the People

Wendy Greyeyes <wgreyeyes@gmail.com>

Mon 7/10/2023 9:57 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

## *Support Legislation 0139-23: Marriage Equality for the People*

Send to [comments@navajo-nsn.gov](mailto:comments@navajo-nsn.gov)

Dear Honorable Council Delegates,

I am an enrolled member at Kayenta Chapter, an active voter, and a homesite lease owner on the Navajo Nation. Today, I am respectfully submitting my comments to support Legislation 0139-23. It is high time that our council sends a message to every Navajo Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, and 2 Spirit (LGBTQIA2+) person that we support them. We love you. We care for you. We honor you. We respect you.

As a Diné woman, I was shocked by the justification and rationale during last year's discussion around the Marriage Equality act that prevented the law from being passed within our Navajo Nation. It is clear, there are continued misunderstandings and confusion about who our LGBTQIA2+ relatives are and their rights as human beings. We also see this antagonism on a national level as we observe states banning certain books and materials to be taught in classroom because they are believed to promote and condition children to become LGBTQIA2+. It is clear, there is a deep ignorance of who LGBTQIA2+ people are. We must educate ourselves.

In our Navajo traditional stories, we learn and teach about the history of the Naadleeh and the role that LGBTQIA2+ Navajos have played in helping all of the people survive and flourish from the monsters to our current roles now. We must challenge the violence against our LGBTQIA + relatives.

When we tell people that their love is not right, or is not part of our traditional history, we are enacting a colonial behavior of conquer and divide. We are tremendously fragmented as a people and telling our people who they may love will continue to erode our Navajo Nation's basic code of our relationship, k'é. Our government must be a tool to help heal our nation, unite our people, and push back against efforts to fragment our people. We must place unconditional love as a driving

force of our government.

If we repeatedly say something is not right, then we permit micro-aggressions against our own relatives. When I say microaggressions, these are statements that dismiss the lived experiences of our people. These microaggressions can lead to micro assaults or even micro insults. Meaning that statements and behaviors that convey bias or communicate negative attitudes toward our own Navajo relatives. We know when these micro acts occur, they impact our self esteem, they fuel anger, and create division among our Navajo relatives.

So, to our dearest leaders and community members, I want a future where we honor the uniqueness and diversity of our people. Currently, our Navajo Nation council is such a beautiful blend of LGBTQIA+ members, mothers, fathers, grandparents, medicine people, lawyers, doctors, professors, farmers, ranchers, and artists. I am respectfully asking you to support and pass the Diné Marriage Equality Act.

Respectfully yours,

Dr. Wendy S. Greyeyes

Associate Professor

University of New Mexico

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**June 29, 2023**

**Executive Director  
Office of Legislative Council  
P.O. Box 3390  
Window Rock, Arizona 86515**

**Subject: Legislation 0139-23**

---

**Dear Sir:**

**I'm writing to make a comment on Legislation 0139-23. I am opposed to this Legislation 0139-23 because its a legislation that has disrupted our Navajo communities. When I heard that the Navajo Nation Council, which I have great respect for, was moving to pass 0139-23 it really troubled me.**

**Living in a society that is under Legislation 0139-23 will further cause confusion among our people, our elders, our youth and our grandchildren.**

**I also believe that a marriage should be between one man and one woman.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Nahkai', with a stylized, cursive-like flourish.

**David Nahkai**

June 30, 2023

Executive Director  
Office of Legislative Council  
PO Box 3390  
Window Rock, AZ 86515

Re: Navajo Marriage Act

Dear Executive Director,

Please do not change the Navajo Marriage Act. Keep marriage act between 1 man and 1 woman. This is the way our Heavenly Father commanded mankind for marriage. God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah because the people disobeyed His command for marriage between 1 man and 1 woman. Please have the Navajo Nation obey God's Word. It is very important to obey God's Word for He blesses people for obedience. Do not place a curse by changing the Navajo Marriage Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rose Calvin". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Rose Calvin  
Dilkon Chapter

Church Rock Christian Reformed Church  
P. O. Box 400  
Church Rock, NM 87313

July 6, 2023

The Honorable Crystalline Curley, Speaker of the House, and  
The Navajo Nation Council  
P. O. Box 3390  
Window Rock, AZ 87515

Dear Madam Speaker and the Navajo Nation Council,

We are members of the Church Rock Christian Reformed Church that serves the community of Church Rock Chapter, Church Rock, NM and surrounding areas. Since our ministry is in Church Rock, we feel fortunate to be a part of the constituency in District 16. As part of the community, we stand with citizens who are expressing their support with signatures in the attached petition. This letter concerns the proposed Legislation 0139-23 introduced by Delegate Seth Damon.

As a church, we are disheartened that same sex marriage is continuing to weigh down on the Navajo Nation. Although we are not trying to show hatred or attain some political end, we are concerned that marriage among homosexuals between two males and two females alter and destroy the traditional marriage institution, the natural union between a man and a woman. The proposed Legislation 0139-23 relating to the Dine' Marriage Act of 2005 and provisions in Title 9 of the Navajo Nation Code weaken and disrupt our traditional Navajo kinship (blood relationships); they reduce the value of our clan system. Additionally, God views same sex marriage in Leviticus 18:22 as detestable for "a man to lie with another man as he would with a woman." The same statement holds true for gay women (a woman having sex with another woman).

To approve and pass legislation 0139-23 is to completely contaminate and transform the natural marital relationships, including having your own children and carrying on ancestral genes. We should be raising and teaching our children proper family arrangements. We understand that you, the Speaker and the Navajo Nation Council have a solemn duty to protect the Navajo Nation from unhealthy ideas about marriages and relationships. We are confident that you share the same values as those who have signed the attached petition; Our Navajo Nation's strength lies in protecting those values. We are thus reaching out to you to stand with our people in voting against 0139-23, Same Sex Marriage. Please see the signatures of concerned citizens of Church Rock, Eastern Navajo, District 16.

Sincerely,  
  
Brothers and Sisters United in Christ

Attachments (2

# VOTE AGAINST PROPOSED LEGISLATION 0139-23, SAME SEX MARRIAGE

We are residents of Church Rock Chapter in District 16 of Eastern Navajo Nation. We urge you to vote against the proposed Legislation 0139-23, An Act relating to Dine' Marriage Act of 2005 to uniformly recognize all marriages within the Navajo Nation and amending other provisions in Title 9 of the Navajo Nation Code which are related to marriage. This proposed legislation will allow same sex marriages on the Navajo Reservation. We view this as an affront to the long-standing traditional belief that homosexuality and especially the homosexual marriage is unnatural and a threat to our kinship society, and the traditional teachings of our children. We urge you not to support 0139-23.

## NAME

## ADDRESS

|                     |          |                       |
|---------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| Nancy F. Livingston | P.O. Box | Gallup NM 87305       |
| Selma Johnson       | P.O. Box | Churchrock NM 87311   |
| Judy Sam            | P.O. Box | Church Rock, NM 87311 |
| Rita J. Gray        | P.O. Box | Rehoboth, N.M. 87322  |
| Dorothy Harjo       |          | Gallup, NM 87301      |
| Harry Natoni        | P.O. Box | Gallup, N.M. 87305    |
| Fabian Chavez       | P.O. Box | Ft. Wingate           |
| Patrick Talk        | P.O. Box | Churchrock NM         |
| Bailey Talk         | P.O. Box | Church Rock NM        |
| Don De              | P.O. Box | Smith Lake NM 87325   |
| Anna Talk           | P.O. Box | Church Rock           |
| Lucille Gray        | P.O. Box | Ft. Wingate NM        |

|                          |                                      |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Patricia Harjo           | Gallup, NM                           |
| Arvis Francisco          | P.O. Box Tahatohi NM 87325           |
| Carlene Hoeksema         | Box Church Rock                      |
| Denisha Nelson           | DO BOX Window Rock AZ 86085          |
| Gary J Hoeksema (Pastor) | Church Rock CRC                      |
| Julie Alonzo             | P.O. Box Ft. Wingate, NM 87314       |
| Walter Bert              | Gallup, New Mexico                   |
| Arken J.                 | Box Church 87221                     |
| Shannah Natori           | Gallup NM 87301                      |
| Esther Roarkness         | P.O. Box Yahatah NM 87338            |
| Betty Nery               | P.O. Box Yahatah, NM 87375           |
| Amelia James             | P.O. Box Yahatah, NM 87375           |
| Vicky Yozie              | P.O. Box Churchrock, N. Mexico 87311 |
| Blam Standford           | P.O. Box Rehoboth, NM 87322          |
| Sharon Zozie             | P.O. Box Gallup, NM 87305            |
|                          |                                      |

# Same Sex action

niya braxton <niyaharvey5@gmail.com>

Mon 7/3/2023 8:31 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Hello Navajo Nation,

To Whom it may concern,

I disapprove what your trying to move in our Dinè nation. You guys talk about "Our Ways" but in reality same sex marriage was never in "Our Way" as a Dinè. Growing up I have been taught our culture and language.

Imagine if this does go through...suicide will go up, confusion in our schools and our younger children will lose they way of our Dinè culture. What about the churches in the towns we all live in? God created Man & Woman to reproduce the world and to grow. This is not how we should grow, this is not what we should be teaching our younger generation. Our generation needs Christ! We are in the last days of Jesus returning and I'm speaking for our children, our grandchildren. Do you see Cheíí and Masaníí with the same sex? No you don't. All my years growing up it has always been Cheí & Masaníí Man & Woman. PERIOD!

You already hurt the community of weed drugs...what's next? This generation needs Jesus! This town needs men to rise up and to show masculinity to our schools, work areas and community. Our town was grown by men. Our town was protected by men in this town especially the veterans. These veterans did not fight for same sex marriage or men to play in women sport vice versa, they fought for FREEDOM for kids to learn in schools and the wives to be by their side as they walk through every battle field. You are forgetting what has been taught. So NO! No I dislike same sex marriage! I don't approve this movement. We need to stand strong against what this world is pushing at us, we need to stand together and to say NO.

Thank you for reading!

Sincerely, Chinle resident.

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.



0139-23

Edna Braxton <eb.slp@icloud.com>

Mon 7/3/2023 8:31 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I bothered and concerned about his legislation! This is a scary place to be to go against all that God has created in the beginning of time. The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom is what we have been taught! To go against what God created as a marriage between a man and wife is foolish! Please vote NO on this legislation. It will open up a floodgate of all sorts of problems we don't need!

Sent from my iPhone

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

# Legislation 0139-23

candice joe <candicecjo@gmail.com>

Mon 7/3/2023 8:31 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

As a mother of 5, I strongly disagree with the Legislation to Same sex marriage. It deeply saddens me. I know the strong teachings that marriage is so sacred and should be only be established between a man and a woman.

It's been that way from the beginning and should continue to be that way.

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

# Marriage

Joanne Wall <walljoanne@outlook.com>

Mon 7/10/2023 9:57 AM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Marriage is a sacred vow between a man and woman, to "become one flesh" as the Scripture says. Hebrews 13:4 "Let marriage be held in honor among all and let the marriage bed be undefiled for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous." GOD WILL JUDGE!

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

July 4, 2023

Honorable Navajo Nation Council Delegates  
The Navajo Nation  
Office of Legislative Council Service  
Post Office Box 3390  
Window Rock, Arizona 86515

Honorable President Buu Nygren  
Honorable Vice-President Richelle Montoya  
The Navajo Nation  
Office of the President and Vice-President  
Post Office Box 7440  
Window Rock, Arizona 86515

Honorable JoAnn Jayne  
The Navajo Nation  
Judicial Branch of the Navajo Nation  
Post Office Box 520  
Window Rock, Arizona 86515

**SUBJECT: Legislative No. 0139-23 – Repealing 9 N.N.C. 2(C) of the Dine Marriage Act of 2005. Requesting of Navajo Nation government to rescind this proposed legislation, and in lieu of, enact a legislation requiring a referendum vote by the Navajo Nation voters opposing or approving an amendment to the Dine Marriage Act of 2005 (No. CJN-34-05).**

I am writing to you today to request for a referendum vote from the people who have elected you to this office. Under the laws, you represent the people that voted, or not voted for you, into this position. The Legislation (No. 0139-23) introduced by Seth Damon is one of those law that changes and shapes the way marriages are conducted on the sovereign Nation. This major legislation, or similar legislation, require the voices of all the tribally enrolled member of the Navajo Nation people residing on and off the Navajo Nation. It is by a referendum vote in a special election that will accomplish that.

Under the Section Two, Findings in Legis. No. 0139-23 are words and sentences that can be debated since some of the sections are bias and not truthful in nature without real historical discoveries or basis, i.e., Section 2.E, Section 2.G, etc. Furthermore, Section 2.M provide a false statement of "*The Navajo Nation finds it to be in the best interest of the Navajo Nation and the Navajo People to repeal 9 N.N.C. 2(C) so that all person can enjoy the benefits of legal recognition of their marriages within the Navajo Nation, whether our relatives are heterosexual, homosexual, bisexual, transgender, non-gender specific, two-spirit, nadleeh.*"

The latter statement (2.M) will be truthful when the voice of the Navajo Nation voters is heard by a referendum vote. That is all I am asking. Without the voices from the Navajo voters, then the Navajo Nation government is like "clouds without water". Another words, it will be a selfish act.

For the record, the State of New Mexico, had battled similar same-sex law. The legislations were introduced several times and several times were challenged. Many technical and scientific questions were expressed by parties to and against these legislations. At the end, the New Mexico legislators could not agree, so that ended the passage of the same sex marriage law. However, by 2013, the New Mexico Supreme Court issued a landmark Marriage Equality Ruling for Same-Sex Couples. This was a case, Griego v. Oliver – Freedom to Marry in New Mexico, that opened the gateway to same sex marriage. The argument in the court cited Article II, Section 18 of the New Mexico Constitution under the Equal Protection Clause. There were six plaintiffs to the case seeking the freedom of marriage. The 33 New Mexico County clerks then intervened in the lawsuit and filed a petition asking the New Mexico Supreme Court to provide a statewide ruling on whether same-sex couple can marry.

On the Navajo Nation, we do not have a constitution in place, although there is the workable 3-branch of government. New Mexico had the Constitution that created a loop to same sex marriage. In the case of Legislation No. 0139-23 filed by Seth Damon, it is asking of the 24-bodied council delegates to make that decision on behalf of over 400,000 Navajo residing on and off the Navajo Nation land. The 24 council delegates are vulnerable to the election process every four years, thus their decision on these types of critical decision must be made from the Dine people themselves. This can only be accomplished by a referendum vote. The referendum legislation should be clear in its writing so that non-articulate or non-English speakers can understand what they are voting on. That is what I am requesting from you today.

With Respectful Submission,

Ray Begaye, Community Advocate  
Shiprock Chapter Community  
Post Office Box  
Shiprock, New Mexico 87420

**HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE  
25<sup>TH</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL**

**FIRST YEAR 2023  
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Madame Speaker,

The **HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE** to whom has been assigned:

**Legislation No. 0139-23:** An Act Relating to the Health, Education and Human Services, Law and Order, Budget and Finance, and Naabik'iyáti' Committees and the Navajo Nation Council; Repealing 9 N.N.C. § 2(C) of the Diné Marriage Act of 2005, to Uniformly Recognize All Marriages Within the Navajo Nation; and Amending Other Provisions in Title 9 of the Navajo Nation Code Related to Marriage Within the Navajo Nation

**Sponsor: Delegate Seth Damon**

Has had it under consideration and reports a Do Pass with no amendment and referring the legislation to the Law and Order Committee.

Respectfully submitted,



Honorable Vince R. James, Chairperson  
Health, Education and Human Services Committee  
25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council

Date: July 26, 2023

Main Motion:

Motion: Honorable Andy Nez  
Second: Honorable Helena Nez Begay  
Vote: 2-1-2

**HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**July 26, 2023**

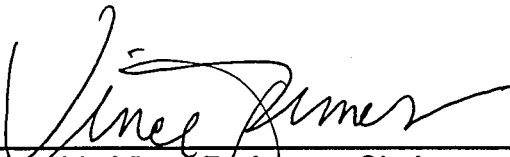
**Legislation No. 0139-23:** An Act Relating to the Health, Education and Human Services, Law and Order, Budget and Finance, and Naabik'iyáti' Committees and the Navajo Nation Council; Repealing 9 N.N.C. § 2(C) of the Diné Marriage Act of 2005, to Uniformly Recognize All Marriages Within the Navajo Nation; and Amending Other Provisions in Title 9 of the Navajo Nation Code Related to Marriage Within the Navajo Nation

**Sponsor: Delegate Seth Damon**

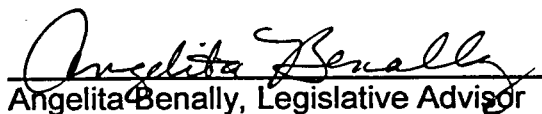
**VOTE TALLY:**

**Main Motion:**

Motion: Honorable Andy Nez  
Second: Honorable Helena Nez Begay  
  
Yea: Helena Nez Begay, Andy Nez  
Nay: George Tolth  
Not Voting: Vince R. James (Presiding Chairperson)  
Excused: Germaine Simonson; Curtis Yanito  
Absent:  
Vote: 2-1-2



Honorable Vince R. James, Chairperson  
Health, Education and Human Services Committee  
25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council



Angelita Benally, Legislative Advisor  
Health, Education and Human Services Committee  
Office of Legislative Services

**LAW AND ORDER COMMITTEE  
25<sup>TH</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL**

**FIRST YEAR 2023**

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

Ms. Speaker,

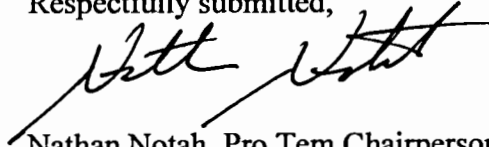
The **LAW AND ORDER COMMITTEE** to whom has been assigned:

**Legislation No. 0139-23:** An Act Relating to the Health, Education and Human Services, Law and Order, Budget and Finance, and Naabik'iyati' Committees and the Navajo Nation Council; Repealing 9 N.N.C. § 2 (C) of the Diné Marriage Act of 2005, to Uniformly Recognize All Marriages within the Navajo Nation; and Amending Other Provisions in Title 9 of the Navajo Nation Code Related to Marriage within the Navajo Nation – *Sponsor: Honorable Seth Damon/Co-Sponsor: Honorable Eugenia Charles-Newton*

Has had it under consideration and reports a DO NOT PASS with no amendment.

And thereafter referred to the Budget and Finance Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nathan Notah', written over a horizontal line.

Nathan Notah, Pro Tem Chairperson  
Law and Order Committee  
25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council

Date: August 28, 2023

**Main Motion:**

Motion : Honorable Eugenia Charles-Newton  
Second : No second  
Vote : 0-0-0



**LAW AND ORDER COMMITTEE**  
**25<sup>TH</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**August 28, 2023**

**Legislation No. 0139-23:** An Act Relating to the Health, Education and Human Services, Law and Order, Budget and Finance, and Naabik'iyati' Committees and the Navajo Nation Council; Repealing 9 N.N.C. § 2 (C) of the Diné Marriage Act of 2005, to Uniformly Recognize All Marriages within the Navajo Nation; and Amending Other Provisions in Title 9 of the Navajo Nation Code Related to Marriage within the Navajo Nation – *Sponsor: Honorable Seth Damon/Co-Sponsor: Honorable Eugenia Charles-Newton*

**VOTE TALLY SHEET:**

**Main Motion:**

Motion: Honorable Eugenia Charles-Newton

Second: No second

Vote: 0-0-0

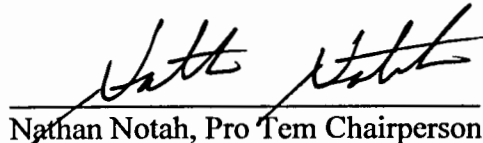
Yea: Honorable Eugenia Charles-Newton

Nay: None

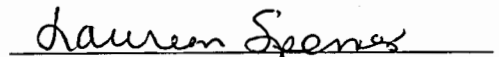
Not Voting: Honorable Herman M. Daniels, Jr./Honorable Nathan Notah

Excused: Honorable Cherilyn Yazzie/Honorable Steven Arviso

Absent: None



Nathan Notah, Pro Tem Chairperson  
Law and Order Committee  
25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council

  
Laureen Spencer, Legislative Advisor  
Office of Legislative Services

**THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW SUMMARY**

**LEGISLATION NO.: 0139-23**

**SPONSOR: Honorable Seth Damon**

**TITLE: An Act Relating to the Health, Education and Human Services, Law and Order, Budget and Finance, and Naabik'íyáti' Committees and the Navajo Nation Council; Repealing 9 N.N.C. § 2(C) of the Diné Marriage Act of 2005, to Uniformly Recognize All Marriages Within the Navajo Nation; and Amending Other Provisions in Title 9 of the Navajo Nation Code Related to Marriage Within the Navajo Nation**

**Posted: June 23, 2023 at 5:31 PM**

**5 DAY Comment Period Ended: June 28, 2023**

**Digital Comments received:**

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Comments Supporting</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Josie Raphaelito</li><li>2) Alray Nelson</li><li>3) Nazbah Tom</li><li>4) Victoria Canby</li><li>5) Apryl Joe</li><li>6) Olympia</li><li>7) Shepherd Tsosie</li><li>8) B B</li><li>9) Nichole A. Alex</li><li>10) Linnabah S.</li><li>11) Katie Jacques</li><li>12) Chantel Jones</li><li>13) Danielle Myers</li><li>14) Denec Bex</li><li>15) Ernestine Yazzie</li><li>16) Jessica Bennett</li><li>17) Chelsea Young</li><li>18) Sam Calamity</li><li>19) Tanerah Taylor</li><li>20) Amariz Rodriguez</li><li>21) Shandiin Wood</li></ol> |
|----------------------------|---|

|                                 |             |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Comments Opposing</b>        | <i>None</i> |
| <b>Comments/Recommendations</b> | <i>None</i> |

  
Legislative Secretary II  
Office of Legislative Services

September 05, 2023 3:00 PM  
Date/Time

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## Support for Legislation No. 0139-23



Josie Raphaelito <jraphaelito@gmail.com>

Wed 8/30, 6:10 AM

comments ▼

🔄 Reply all | ▼

Inbox

Good Morning,

I'm writing in support of legislation to repeal the discriminatory Dine Marriage Act and to officially recognize marriage qually for our Navajo people. We need to work together to protect the rights of same-sex couples and acknowledge the many contributions as sacred people made by lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and Two-Spirit relatives. The time to act is now.

Let's make a positive change together.

Sincerely,

Josie Raphaelito

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## We are Ké - Family



Alray Nelson <nelsonstrong86@gmail.com>

Wed 8/30, 5:59 PM

comments ▼

🔄 Reply all | ▼

Inbox

The government should not tell me who I should love or choose to live the rest of my life with on the Navajo Nation.

Prohibiting same-sex marriages does not welcome or support the well-being of all our Navajo family members. This comprehensive legislation amends provisions within the Navajo Code that will also protect our women, ensure same-sex couples are protected under the law, and bring an end to LGBTQ+ discrimination.

Let me also be clear that we value and respect the traditional Navajo wedding ceremony involving a man and woman. That shall remain unchanged. We are asking for equal recognition of our state marriage license, the permission to obtain a Navajo marriage license, and to be treated as equally as our straight parents.

We ask the 25th Navajo Nation Council to stand on the right side of history and to pass this legislation immediately.

Our gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and two-spirit Diné relatives are sacred human beings and we are your Ké - FAMILY.

And with that knowledge, we love one another and respect each other to live our lives as we see fit. There should be no discussion about hate or discrimination against our LGBTQ+ community.

We're Diné. We are one people, one family, and one Sovereign Nation. I ask our Navajo leaders to vote in favor of marriage equality and for the right to legally marry my husband of 12 years here on our sacred homeland.

- Alray Nelson

Executive Director & Co-Founder

Navajo Nation Pride

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## Supporting Marriage Equality



Nazbah Tom <nazbahtomcp@gmail.com>

Thu 8/31, 6:48 PM

comments ▼

🔄 Reply all | ▼

Inbox

Ya'ah'teh-

My name is Nazbah Tom and I am a registered member of the Navajo Nation. I am also queer.

I grew up on my ancestral homelands and have had to endure homophobia and transphobia from friends, family, and community members. Despite this, I was able to access healing resources away from my ancestral homelands. I have come to understand my queerness as a blessing and fortunate journey in my life. It has allowed me to see the world more compassionately and to stand up for and, with others, when there is injustice at work.

I urge our legislators to support LGBTQ2S marriage equality so that upcoming generations stand in their dignity dressed in the respect of their people. Laws like this protect people offering them safety and a sense of belonging. This in turn impacts their overall wellbeing.

You will shift the river of justice and stand on the right side of history by supporting marriage equality.

We have always been a part of the story of our people and we will continue to be a part of the story of our people.

Ahehee-

Nazbah Tom


Ashihii

Bitahnii

Lokaa'dine'e

Todachini

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## Support Marriage equality in the Navajo Nation!



Victoria Canby <dembones@hotmail.com>

Thu 8/31, 10:35 PM

comments 

 Reply all | 

Inbox

To the Office of Legislative Services and whom it may concerned,

As an enrolled tribal member, I am writing in support of legislation 0139-23 to repeal the discriminatory Dine' Marriage Act and to officially recognize marriage equality for all Navajo People. The United States made the decision to support marriage equality in 2015 and the Navajo Nation should follow the model of the rest of the country to support all of its tribal citizens right to marriage. We are a people with strong family values based on love, acceptance and empathy, which should not discriminate against love based on the limits of binary gender roles. Traditional Dine' values include more than just two gender identities therefore we should not limit marriage to just a legal bond between a man and woman. Please support this important legislation and show our people and the rest of the United States we are a progressive, inclusive and enlightened Nation.

Sincerely,  
Victoria Canby  
San Anselmo, California

Family: Shiprock Chapter house

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## Marriage Equality



Apryl Joe <apryl.joe@gmail.com>

Thu 8/31, 10:50 PM

comments 

Inbox

Yá'át'ééh Navajo Nation Council,

Our nation and Diné people are long over due to support all of our relatives when it comes to marriage. It is time for us to recognize the important contributions and roles of our LGBTQ+ community. Let's welcome them back into the circle, honor them, and support them. I strongly support marriage equality for the Navajo Nation, please vote yes to support Legislation 0139-23.

Ahéhee',

Apryl Joe

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## Marriage Equality



bahozyogoo@gmail.com

Thu 8/31, 10:50 PM

comments 

 Reply all | 

Inbox

Yáátééh shíké,

My name is Olympia, my mother clan is Ta'neeshahnii (Tangle/Badlands). I'm writing to encourage our leaders to support marriage equality. We are long overdue to support our relatives.

Ahé'heé

Olympia

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## Support Navajo Marriage Equality



Shepherd Tsosie <sheptsosie@gmail.com>

Thu 8/31, 10:51 PM

comments 

 Reply all | 

Inbox

To Navajo Nation Council,

Yá'át'ééh shí Shepherd Tsosie yinishyé. Tłizítaní nishlį, tsénijikiní bashishchiin, hashk'aa hadzohí dashícheii, honágháanii dashínalí.

I am writing to you in support of Navajo marriage equality. I strongly urge you to support access to marriage for ALL Diné citizens, including those of us who identify as 2SLGBTQIA.

Ahé'héé for reading my comment. And thank you for supporting Navajo Marriage Equality. Since 2015 The US Supreme Court granted marriage equality to citizens in ALL fifty states. It is incredibly frustrating to be recognized as legally married in my state but I can't do the same in my own nation. Please repeal Title 9, it is long overdue.

Thanks again.

Sincerely,  
Shepherd Tsosie

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Marriage equality



B B <tgarnanez@gmail.com>

Thu 8/31, 10:51 PM

comments ▾

⌂ Reply all | ▾

Inbox

I am Diné and I support marriage equality WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

📧 Reply all | ▾ 🗑 Delete Junk | ▾ ...



## Support for Legislation Marriage Equality

## Repeal of the Diné Marriage Act for



Nichole A. Alex <nichole.a.alex@gmail.com>

Fri 9/1, 10:57 AM

comments; Cherilyn Yazzie ▾

📧 Reply all | ▾

Inbox

Honorable Members of the Navajo Nation Council,

I write to you today not in my official capacity as an Associate Judge for the Pueblo of Zuni but as a concerned member of the Navajo Nation. I wish to provide insight into what I witness daily in court and in my previous role as a sex education teacher. This legislation seeks to repeal the discriminatory Diné Marriage Act and officially recognize marriage equality for all Navajo people.

As a member of our proud Navajo community, I have witnessed the profound impact of discriminatory legislation on the lives of our LGBTQIA+ brothers and sisters. As a sex education teacher in the Navajo Nation, I have had the privilege of engaging with our youth and hearing their experiences. Sadly, many Navajo LGBTQIA+ youths have expressed that they feel unseen and unheard in their own community.

It is crucial that we confront and rectify the injustices perpetuated by laws like the Diné Marriage Act, which not only infringe upon the rights of our community members but also undermine the principles of equality and justice that our Nation holds dear.

It is essential to recognize the historical context of the Diné Marriage Act and its roots in the opposition to homosexuality and gender-fluidity introduced by Christian missionaries and the U.S. federal government, particularly through the Bureau of Indian Affairs. These discriminatory attitudes have no place in a modern and inclusive society. Our culture and traditions have always embraced diversity, and it is time for our laws to reflect this acceptance.

One alarming consequence of such discriminatory laws is the disproportionately high suicide attempt rate among Navajo LGBTQIA+ youths, which is currently three times that of white LGBTQIA+ youths. These statistics should serve as a stark reminder of the devastating impact that discrimination and lack of acceptance can have on the mental and emotional well-being of our young community members.

Furthermore, it is heartening to observe the generational shift in attitudes within our community. Many Navajo LGBTQIA+ youths find acceptance and support from their grandparents' generation, even when they face opposition from their parents' generation. This evolving perspective within our community underscores the need for our laws to evolve to ensure that all Navajo people can live free from discrimination and enjoy the same rights as their fellow citizens.

In my personal capacity as an Associate Judge, I have had the privilege of presiding over name changes for transgender youth and providing a safe space for them to express their identities. These experiences



The Diné Marriage Act not only denies the fundamental human right to marry the person one loves but also perpetuates a harmful stigma against LGBTQIA+ individuals in our community. It is time for our laws to change, reflecting the principles of equality, respect, and acceptance that define our culture.

I urge you, esteemed members of the Navajo Nation Council, to support Legislation No. \_\_\_\_\_ and take a bold step towards justice, equality, and inclusion for all Navajo people. By repealing the Diné Marriage Act, we can send a powerful message that discrimination has no place in our Nation, and love is love, no matter who it is between.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to witnessing the positive impact that this legislation can have on the lives of our LGBTQIA+ community members and the Navajo Nation as a whole.

**Nichole A. Alex**

mobile: 505.

e-mail: [nichole.a.alex@gmail.com](mailto:nichole.a.alex@gmail.com)

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## I support marriage equality



Linnabah S <linnabah@gmail.com>

Today, 11:12 AM

comments 

 Reply all | 

Inbox

Hi - as a member of the Chinle Chapter, I want to let this legislative body know I support marriage equality.

- Linnabah Snyder

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I support marriage equality.



Katie Jacques <katiea.jacques@gmail.com>

Today, 11:12 AM

comments ↕

🔍 Reply all | ▼

Inbox

Dear Navajo Nation lawmakers,

I'm writing to tell you that I wholeheartedly support marriage equality.

Sincerely,

Katie Jacques

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## SUPPORT MARRIAGE EQUALITY



Chantel Jones <chanteljones4@gmail.com>

Today, 11:12 AM

comments 

 Reply all | 

Inbox

Yá'átééh, I support marriage equality and legislation 0139-23!

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## Marriage Equality



Danielle Myers <daniellenicholemyers@gmail.com>





Today, 11:12 AM

comments 

 Reply all | 

Inbox

I support marriage equality. Vote yes. WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

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## Support letter



Denée Bex <denée.bex@gmail.com>

Today, 11:13 AM

comments 

 Reply all | 

Inbox





I support marriage equality. I am a member of the Navajo Nation and part of the Ft. Defiance chapter.

Thank you,

**Denée Bex, MPH, RD, CDCES**

[Website](#) - [Instagram](#) - [Facebook](#)

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## Supporting marriage equality



Ernestine Yazzie <elyazee00@gmail.com>

Today, 11:13 AM

comments 

 Reply all | 

Inbox

I'm emailing in SUPPORT of marriage equality! Thank you!

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## Marriage Equality



Jessica Bennett <jesscherie26@gmail.com>

Today, 11:13 AM

comments ↕

🔄 Reply all | ▼

Inbox

Dear Navajo Nation Lawmakers,

I support marriage equality for all peoples, Especially members of the Navajo Nation. Please make laws to protect that right for everyone, especially Navajo.

I very much would like to get married.

Thank you

Jessica

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## Marriage Equality



Chelsea Young <chelsealnyoung@gmail.com>

Today, 11:13 AM

comments 

 Reply all | 

Inbox

I support the community that chooses to accept the lonely outcast. Marriage Equality is extremely important for us to push towards a more peaceful planet. In this time, I believe peace above all.

Thank you,  
Chelsea Young

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

 Reply all |   Delete Junk |  ...



## Supporting marriage equality



Sam Calamity <samecalamit@gmail.com>

Today, 11:13 AM

comments 

 Reply all | 

Inbox

Hello,

My name is Samantha Calamity and I want to voice my support for marriage equality in the Diné Nation. Please vote yes.

Thank you

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(No subject)



Tanerah Taylor <taneraht@gmail.com>

Today, 11:13 AM

comments 

 Reply all | 

Inbox

My name is Tanerah Taylor and I support marriage rights for ALL Navajo/Diné people regardless of gender or sexual orientation. WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

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## Vote YES for Marriage Equality!



Amariz Rodriguez <amarizdr@gmail.com>

Today, 11:13 AM

comments 

 Reply all | 

Inbox

Support your community and the people within of all sexualities and please vote YES for marriage equality! Allow people to live their true, happy lives. WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.



 Reply all |   Delete Junk |  ...



## In Support of marriage equality



Shandiin Wood <shandiin.wood@gmail.com>

Today, 11:13 AM

comments 

 Reply all | 

Inbox

My name is Shandiin Wood,

I am from Fort Defiance and I want law makers to recognize my support for Marriage Equality for the Navajo Nation.

Thank you.

Shandiin Wood

--

Shandiin Wood

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

**25<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL**

First Year 2023

Ms. Speaker:

The **BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE** to whom has been assigned

**NAVAJO LEGISLATIVE BILL # 0139-23:**

An Act Relating to the Health, Education and Human Services, Law and Order, Budget and Finance, and Naabik'iyáti' Committees and the Navajo Nation Council; Repealing 9 N.N.C. § 2(C) of the Diné Marriage Act of 2005, to Uniformly Recognize All Marriages Within the Navajo Nation; and Amending Other Provisions in Title 9 of the Navajo Nation Code Related to Marriage Within the Navajo Nation

Sponsors: Seth A. Damon and Eugenia Charles-Newton, Council Delegates

has had it under consideration and reports the same with the recommendation that It **Do Pass** without amendment.

And, therefore referred to the **NAABIKIYATI** Committee

Respectfully submitted,



Shaandiin Parrish, Chairperson

Adopted:   
Legislative Advisor

Not Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislative Advisor

**11 September 2023**

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEM**

The vote was **2** in favor **1** opposed yeas: Seth A. Damon, Carl R. Slater nays: Norman M. Begay

Main Motion: Carl R. Slater

Second: Seth A. Damon

## BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

September 11, 2023

Special Meeting

### VOTE TALLY SHEET:

**Legislation No. 0139-23:** An Act Relating to the Health, Education and Human Services, Law and Order, Budget and Finance, and Naabik'iyáti' Committees and the Navajo Nation Council; Repealing 9 N.N.C. § 2(C) of the Diné Marriage Act of 2005, to Uniformly Recognize All Marriages Within the Navajo Nation; and Amending Other Provisions in Title 9 of the Navajo Nation Code Related to Marriage Within the Navajo Nation

Sponsors: Seth A. Damon and Eugenia Charles-Newton, Council Delegates

#### CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

*Motion: Carl R. Slater*

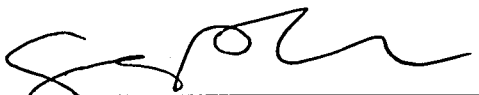
*Second: Seth A. Damon*


*Vote: 2-1, Chairperson not voting*

#### Final Vote Tally:

|                   |            |            |
|-------------------|------------|------------|
| Lomardo Aseret    |            |            |
| Norman M. Begay   |            | <b>nay</b> |
| Amber K. Crotty   |            |            |
| Seth A. Damon     | <b>yea</b> |            |
| Shaandiin Parrish |            |            |
| Carl R. Slater    | <b>yea</b> |            |

*Excused: Lomardo Aseret, Amber K. Crotty*

  
Shaandiin Parrish, Chairperson  
Budget & Finance Committee

  
Peggy Nakai, Legislative Advisor  
Budget & Finance Committee