

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0198-16

DATE: June 22, 2016

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES; ENACTING PLAN OF OPERATION FOR NAVAJO NATION VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL

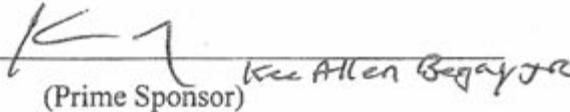
PURPOSE: The Navajo Nation Council by resolution CJA-3-16 established a Veterans Administration and a Veterans Advisory Council. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is the oversight authority over the Administration and Advisory Council. It has authority to approve the Plans of Operation for the two entities. This resolution concerns the plan of operation for Veterans Advisory Council.

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: None
Website Posting Time/Date: 5:01 PM 10/28/2016
Posting End Date: 10/28/2016
Eligible for Action: 10/29/2016

1 PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
2 23rd NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - Second Year, 2016

3 INTRODUCED BY

4
5 
6 (Prime Sponsor)

7 0198-11e

8 AN ACT

9 RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES; ENACTING
10 PLAN OF OPERATION FOR NAVAJO NATION VETERANS ADVISORY
11 COUNCIL

12 BE IT ENACTED:

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14
15 **Section One. Authorities**

16 The Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation
17 Council, among other duties and responsibilities, generally oversees veterans matters. 2
18 N.N.C. §401.

19
20 **Section Two. Findings**

21 A. The Navajo Nation Council on January 26, 2016 enacted enabling legislation
22 establishing the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration and the Navajo Nation Veterans
23 Advisory Council. CJA-3-16.

24 B. Pursuant to CJA-3-16, the Health, Education and Human Services Committee was
25 given oversight responsibilities over the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration and the
26 Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council. The committee was further authorized to
27 approve plans of operation for these entities, respectively. 2 N.N.C. §1034.

28 C. Resolution CJA-3-16, was signed into law by the Navajo Nation President on
29 February 13, 2016. See Exhibit "B," attached hereto.

30

16-460-1

1 **Section Three. Enacting Plan of Operation for Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory**
2 **Council**

3 The Navajo Nation hereby enacts the Plan of Operation for the Navajo Nation
4 Veterans Advisory Council as provided in Exhibit "A."
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3 Plan of Operation of the
4 Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council

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6 **I. Establishment**

7 The Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council (NNVAC) of the Navajo Nation
8 Veterans Administration (NNVA) is hereby established within the Executive Branch of
9 the Navajo Nation Government under the Office of the President and Vice President of
10 the Navajo Nation.

11
12 **II. Purpose**

13 The purpose of the NNVAC is to provide recommendations to the Navajo Nation
14 President, Vice President and NNVA Executive Director on policies and procedures of
15 the NNVA, to advocate on behalf of all Navajo Nation Veterans, qualified surviving
16 spouses, and Gold Star Mothers with quality, transparent and consistent service.

17
18 **III. Objectives**

19 The NNVAC shall be responsible for carrying out the following objectives:

- 20 A. Have a clear understanding and working knowledge of the purpose and mission of the
21 NNVAC.
- 22 B. Have a clear understanding and working knowledge of the purpose and mission of the
23 NNVA.
- 24 C. To promote public awareness, garner support for the veteran community and their
25 families while identifying their issues within the Navajo Nation.
- 26 D. Meet quarterly to develop policy recommendations and advice to the President, Vice
27 President, and Executive Director regarding veterans' issues.
- 28 E. Address needs of Navajo Nation Veterans with other Navajo commissions, boards,
29 agencies and organizations as appropriate.
- 30

1 F. Participate in legislative processes at local, state or national levels.

2 G. Through NNVA maintain a Resource Guide to include community and social services
3 points of contact available to the Veterans' community and their families.

4 H. Conduct a Navajo Nation wide communication effort to keep veterans and their
5 families informed of benefits and services.

6
7 **IV. Organization**

8 A. The Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council shall consist of eleven (11) members:
9 ten (10) Navajo Nation Veterans as the designated voting members; and the NNVA
10 Executive Director, acting as a non-voting member.

11 B. No action may be taken without a quorum present.

12
13 **V. Advisory Council Members Selection**

14 Conduct Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council internal election of officers,
15 which shall occur at the first meeting held at the beginning of each fiscal year.

16
17 **VI. Duties and Responsibilities NNVAC members**

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19 NNVAC shall be administratively responsible under the office of the President and
20 Vice President to:

21 A. Provide recommendations to the Navajo Nation President in the selection process and
22 contracting of the NNVA Executive Director.

23 B. Serve to the best of their ability.

24 C. Zealously represent with honor and respect, all Navajo Nation Veterans, past, present
25 and future.

26 D. Act ethically and morally in representing equal handedly all Navajo Nation Veterans.

27 E. Seek input from Executive Director regarding proposed agenda for upcoming Navajo
28 Nation Veterans Advisory Council meetings.

29 F. Maintain and observe NNVAC Plan of Operation.

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16-460-1

1 G. To provide effective communications to the President and Vice-President of the
2 Navajo Nation and the Executive Director, Navajo Nation Veterans Administration
3 (NNVA).

4 H. Shall operate fully within the laws of the Navajo Nation and any applicable policy
5 and procedures set forth by the Navajo Nation Council.

6
7 **VII. Amendments**

8 The Plan of Operation can be amended periodically by the Health, Education and
9 Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council as recommended by the
10 NNVAC in consultation with the NNVA Director.