

RESOLUTION OF THE  
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE  
Of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Navajo Nation Council---Second Year 2016

AN ACT  
RELATING TO BUDGET AND FINANCE AND HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN  
SERVICES; ENACTING PLAN OF OPERATION FOR NAVAJO NATION VETERANS  
ADMINISTRATION; RESCINDING DEPARTMENT OF NAVAJO VETERANS AFFAIRS  
PLAN OF OPERATION

BE IT ENACTED:

**Section One. Authorities**

A. The Budget and Finance Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, among other duties and responsibilities, generally oversees financial activities of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §301.

B. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, among other duties and responsibilities, generally oversees veterans matters. 2 N.N.C. §401. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §1034, the committee is responsible for approving the plan of operation for the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration. See, CJA-3-16.

**Section Two. Findings**

A. The Navajo Nation Council on January 26, 2016 enacted enabling legislation establishing the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration and an advisory council. CJA-3-16.

B. Pursuant to CJA-3-16, the Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs is replaced by the newly-created Navajo Nation Veterans Administration.

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

**Section Three. Enacting Plan of Operation for Navajo Nation Veterans Administration**

The Navajo Nation hereby enacts the Plan of Operation for the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration as provided in Exhibit "A."

**Section Four. Rescinding Plan of Operation for Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs**

The Navajo Nation rescinds the Plan of Operation for the Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs, resolution GSCMY-40-03, as provided in Exhibit "B."

PLAN OF OPERATION FOR  
NAVAJO NATION VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

I. ESTABLISHMENT

The Navajo Nation Veterans Administration (NNVA) is established within the Executive Branch of the Navajo Nation Government and as a Navajo Nation Administration within the Office of the President and Vice President of the Navajo Nation.

II. OBJECTIVES

The NNVA shall be responsible for carrying out the following objectives on behalf of Veterans:

- A. Advocate and provide administrative oversight and coordination for needed services for Veterans in areas such as housing, education, and other specialized training; such as legal, medical and small business development assistance and other related Veterans' benefits or programs.
- B. To seek accreditation for veterans benefits and claims which are available pursuant to Title 38 U.S. Code and other benefits available from Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and the Navajo Nation.
- C. Identify, prioritize and advocate for program services to assist Veterans.
- D. To advocate for the preferential treatment of veterans in business and employment.
- E. Evaluating and advocating for the needs of Veterans.

III. PURPOSES

The purposes of the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration (NNVA) shall be to:

A. Effectively and efficiently provide outreach, services and benefits to Veterans; and to identify the exclusive and distinctive needs of Veterans, their widow(er) and Gold Star Mothers.

B. Seek additional funding and make recommendations for the implementation, expansion and improvement of existing programs of the NNVA, divisions and offices of the Navajo Nation to ensure Veterans receive the benefits and services they are entitled to.

C. To the extent permitted by federal, state and/or Navajo Nation law, the NNVA shall monitor and assess all Veterans' benefit programs made available to the Navajo Nation and its Veterans, which affect the exclusive and distinctive needs and interest of Veterans.

D. Recommend overall policies and legislations regarding Veterans to the Navajo Nation Council through the Navajo Nation's respective committees and communities which consider and are consistent with applicable governmental laws and policies.

E. Seek and improve the quality and accessibility of healthcare benefits, health services for Veterans on the Navajo Nation.

F. Monitor, advocate and promote employment and educational training for Veterans, business preference, employment preference and other services.

G. Seek the establishment and funding of the Veterans' Housing Programs or services for Veterans on the Navajo Reservation. This may include seeking partnership(s) with local, tribal,

state or federal housing entities to provide the best services available for housing.

H. Determine, implement and provide program services for the needs and benefits of Veterans pursuant to Navajo Nation budget appropriations and pursuant to duly accepted and approved program funds received by the Navajo Nation.

I. Partner with Office of the Controller-Credit Service in implementing and maintaining a Navajo Veterans Loans Program in accordance with all applicable Navajo Nation Laws, and Operating procedures and guidelines for the program, as approved by the Budget and Finance Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.

J. Recommend the appropriation of available funds for use by the Navajo Veterans Loan Program.

K. Seek Federal recognition under 38 C.F.R section 14.628 to prepare, present and prosecute claims for Veterans Administration (VA) benefits.

L. Manage by administering, advocating and improving the Carl T. Hayden-Veterans Administration Medical Center (VAMC) Fee Reimbursement program for Traditional Healing Ceremony.

M. To the extent permitted by federal, state or Navajo Nation law, the NNVA shall assist Navajo Nation Chapters and Veterans in implementing the Navajo Nation Local Governance Act of 1998.

N. Collaborate with the Navajo Veterans Advisory Council on policy matters.

#### IV. ORGANIZATION

A. The NNVA shall be responsible for the administrative, operations and logistics of the NNVA under the President of the Navajo Nation.

B. The NNVA shall have a central administrative office located in Window Rock, Arizona and have sub-office across the Navajo Reservation which may include satellite areas of the Navajo Nation.

C. The organizational chart for the NNVA is attached as "Exhibit A" herein.

#### V. PERSONNEL

A. The NNVA shall be supervised by a Executive Director who shall be selected and contracted by the President of the Navajo Nation, in consultation with the Navajo Veterans Advisory Council.

B. The NNVA's staff shall be selected, employed, supervised and terminated by the Executive Director, pursuant to and in accordance with the Navajo Nation Personnel Policies Manual and all other laws, regulation and benefits applicable to executive employees of the Navajo Nation under the Office of the President and Vice President.

#### VI AUTHORITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. The responsibilities of the Executive Director shall be to:

1. Supervise personnel and administer the operations of the NNVA.

2. In absence of the Executive Director the next senior personnel or next delegated personnel on the organizational structure shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the Executive Director to ensure continuity of NNVA operations, accountability, responsibility and communication.

3. Report from time to time to and as requested to the Navajo Nation on the status of the NNVA.

4. Create a Veterans registry program that ensures a periodic Veterans population count.

5. Recommending necessary budget proposals for professional and/or technical positions and services as needed to carry out the duties and responsibilities set forth herein.

6. Implement, administer and enforce the following, but not limited to:

a. Recommending and providing coordination for implementation of authorized federal, state and tribal program for the benefit of Veterans pursuant to all applicable Navajo Nation, State, or Federal laws, rules and regulations.

b. Serving as a liaison to seek and identify additional state, federal and tribal sources to provide the maximum return for Navajo Nation general funds and private matching funds.

c. Recommending the negotiation and appropriation of available funds to use for Veterans.

d. Managing monetary assistance programs and/or services to all eligible Veterans, widow(er)s and Gold Star Mothers pursuant to duly approved program policies and procedures.

e. Developing, recommending and implementing policies and procedures for the administration of all programs for Veterans under the NNVA.

f. To provide administrative support and technical assistance to the Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council.

#### VII. LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT

A. Legislative oversight for the operation of the NNVA shall be provided by the Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.

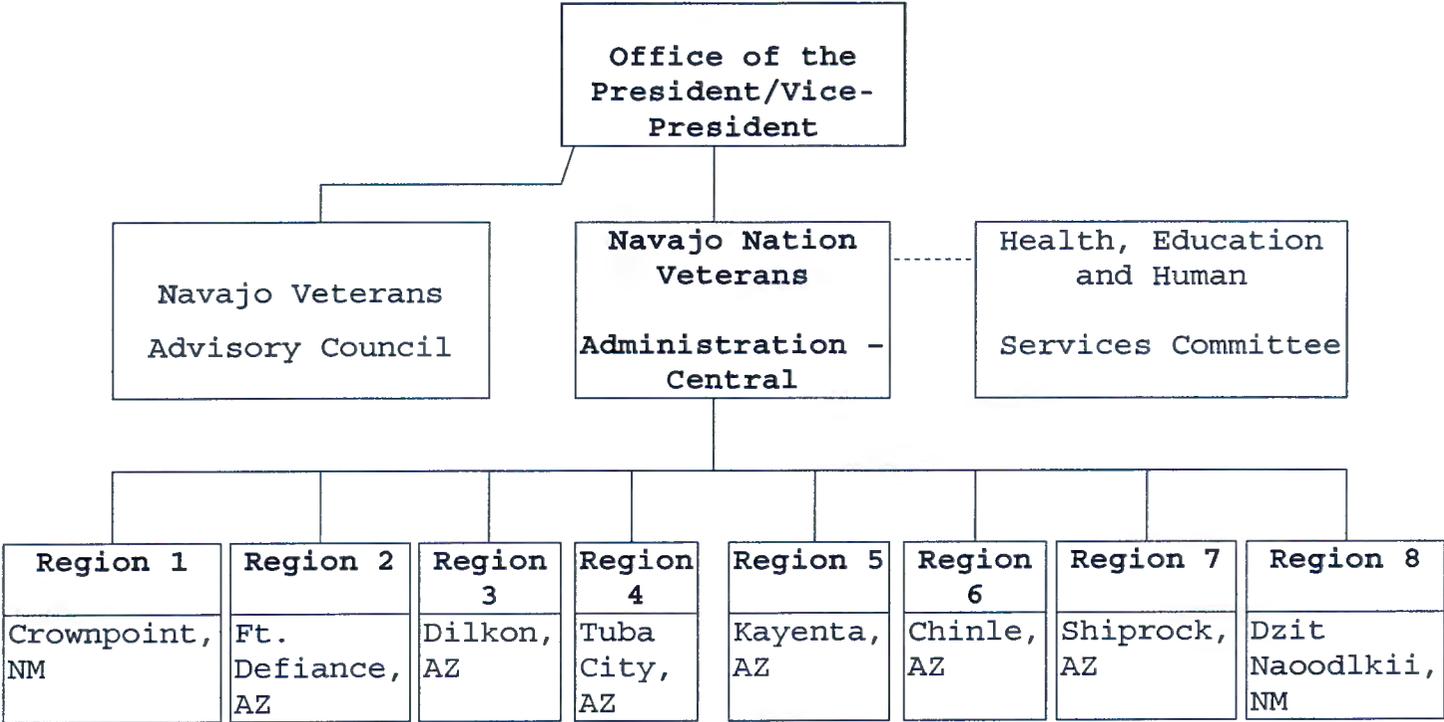
B. In consultation with the Health, Education and Human Services Committee, the Budget and Finance Committee of the Navajo Nation Council shall provide legislative oversight to the NNVA-Loan Program.

VIII. AMENDMENTS

This Plan of Operation may be amended periodically with approval by the Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.

FY'2017 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE:  
Navajo Nation Veterans Administration

"Exhibit  
A"



## EXHIBIT "B"

~~Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs~~~~Article I — Establishment~~

~~The Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs was established within the Executive Branch of the Navajo Nation Government and is hereby continued as a Navajo Nation Department within the Division of Human Resources of the Navajo Nation.~~

~~Article II — Purpose~~

~~The purpose of the Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs shall be:~~

~~A. To identify, assess and prioritize the special needs of Navajo Veterans, their dependents and survivors and Gold Star Mothers.~~

~~B. To seek out and identify additional funding sources and make recommendation for the implementation, expansion and improvement of existing programs of the divisions and offices of the Navajo Nation to ensure that the Navajo Veterans receive the benefits and services they are entitled to.~~

~~C. To the extent permitted by federal, state or Tribal Navajo Nation law, the Department shall monitor and assess all Veterans' benefit programs made available to the Navajo Nation and its Veterans which affect the special needs and interest of Navajo Veterans for compliance with all applicable Navajo Nation, state and federal laws.~~

~~D. To recommend overall policies and legislation regarding Navajo Veterans to the Navajo Nation Council through the Navajo Nation's respective committees and its respective communities which consider and are consistent with acceptable traditional and customary practices of the Navajo People.~~

~~E. To seek the establishment and funding of health care facilities for Navajo Veterans on the Navajo Nation.~~

~~F. To monitor, advocate and promote Navajo Nation efforts towards employment and educational training of Navajo Veterans, in business preference for Navajo Veterans, and in seeking out other services and benefits for Navajo Veterans provided by other Veteran agencies and special interest groups pursuant to established rules and regulations of the Navajo Nation.~~

~~G. To seek the establishment and funding of the Navajo Veterans' Housing Assistance Program for Navajo Veterans on the Navajo Reservation.~~

~~H. To determine, implement and provide program services for the needs and benefits of Navajo Veterans pursuant to Navajo Nation budget appropriations and pursuant to duly accepted and approved program funds received by the Navajo Nation on behalf of the Navajo Nation Veterans.~~

~~I. To administer and manage the Veterans Loan Program and all the assets and outstanding accounts receivable associated therein including, but not limited to:~~

~~a. Administration of the Veterans Loans Program in accordance with all applicable Navajo Tribal Nation laws, and the Operating Policies and Guidelines for the program, as approved by the Budget and Finance Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.~~

~~b. Servicing all accounts receivables associated with the Veterans Loan Program so as to protect the Navajo Nation's interest in property pledged to secure any loans made under the program.~~

~~c. Implementation of collect efforts in regards to funds due and owing the Navajo Nation resulting from loans made under the program.~~

d. ~~Assisting the Budget and Finance committee of the Navajo Nation Council in the completion of their duties and responsibilities as set forth in their Plan of Operation as amended.~~

e. ~~Recommending the negotiation and appropriation of available funds for use by the Navajo Veterans' Loan Program.~~

J. ~~To seek the establishment and funding of a Navajo Nation Veterans Cemetery.~~

K. ~~To seek the establishment, funding and maintenance of the Navajo Veterans Memorial Park.~~

L. ~~To administer, implement, manage and monitor the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA) of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as it applies to Navajo Nation housing for Navajo Veterans.~~

M. ~~To administer and manage the Strengthening Alliance of Veterans and Families AmeriCorp Program of Corporation for National Service in accordance with applicable federal, state and Navajo laws, rules and regulations, and operating policies and guidelines.~~

N. ~~To seek the establishment and funding of the VA Claims Examiner Program.~~

O. ~~To administer and manage the Veterans Administration Medical Center (VAMC) Fee Reimbursement Traditional Healing Ceremony in collaboration with Carl T. Hayden VAMC of Phoenix, Arizona.~~

P. ~~To the extent permitted by federal, state or Navajo Nation law, the Department shall assist Navajo Nation Chapters and Veterans in implementing the Navajo Nation Local Governance Act of 1995.~~

Article III — Authorities, Duties and Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the Department Director shall be:

1. ~~To supervise and administer the Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs program and other duly approved programs as authorized under the provisions of this Plan of Operation for the Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs.~~
2. ~~To implement, carry out and enforce authorized policies and directives as promulgate by virtue of the Plan of Operation of the Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs including, but not limited to:~~
  - a. ~~Representing the Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs as directed and authorized by the Navajo Nation and in dealing with the public and representatives of other organizations.~~
  - b. ~~Determining, evaluating and advocating for the needs of Navajo Veterans.~~
  - c. ~~Recommending and providing coordination for implementation of authorized federal, state and tribal program for the benefit of Navajo Veterans pursuant to all applicable Navajo Nation laws, rules and regulations.~~
  - d. ~~Serving as a liaison to seek and identify additional state, federal and tribal sources to insure the maximum return for Tribal Navajo Nation general funds and private matching funds.~~
  - e. ~~Recommending the negotiation and appropriation of available funds to use for Navajo Veterans' program to the Budget and Finance Committee of the Navajo Nation Council through recommendation by the appropriate Navajo Nation Council Committees.~~
  - f. ~~Overseeing and conducting program monetary assistance and/or services to all eligible Navajo Veterans and eligible spouses,~~

~~widow(er)s and dependent children of deceased Navajo Veterans pursuant to duly approved program policies and procedures.~~

~~g. Recommending necessary budget proposals for professional and/or technical positions and services as needed to carry out the duties and responsibilities set forth herein.~~

~~h. Developing, recommending and implementing policies and procedures for the administration of all programs to Navajo Veterans under the Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs.~~

~~3. To carry out the purposes for the Veterans Loan Program as set forth in Section II of this Plan of Operation; including, but not limited to:~~

~~a. Accepting, reviewing, evaluating and processing applications for loans in accordance with Operating Policies and Guidelines adopted by the Budget and Finance Committee.~~

~~b. Closing approved loans in accordance with Operating Policies and Guidelines approved by the Budget and Finance Committee and accounting policies and procedures of the Navajo Nation.~~

~~c. Managing and servicing loan accounts arising from loans made and to take, cause to be taken all appropriate actions to protect property interests of the Navajo Nation.~~

~~d. Initiating collections procedures, including the referral of accounts to the Department of Justice for litigation or other appropriate action, for all sums due and owing the Navajo Nation arising from loans made under the program.~~

~~e. Recommending policies and procedures to the Budget and Finance committee and other appropriate Committees of the Navajo Nation Council.~~

~~f. Preparing and presenting periodic accounting and operational reports to appropriate parties.~~

- ~~g. Executing documents on behalf of the Navajo Nation in regards to the closing of loans, the placement and release of liens on personal property, and the release of leasehold mortgages pertaining to loans that have been paid in full.~~
- ~~h. Publishing or causing to be published, public information material pertaining to the program.~~
- ~~i. Completing such other assignments, or take such other actions as it is necessary to protect the property and assets of the Navajo Nation.~~

Article IV — Objectives

~~The Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs shall be responsible for carrying out the following objectives on behalf of Navajo Veterans:~~

- ~~1. To advocate and provide administrative oversight and coordination for needed services for Navajo Veterans in such areas as housing, housing assistance, education, vocational, and other special training, legal, medical and small business development assistance, compensation and pensions, memorial affairs and other related Veterans' benefits.~~
- ~~2. To promote utilization of benefits available pursuant to Title 238 U.S. Code and other related federal laws and regulations.~~
- ~~3. To promote utilization of benefits available pursuant to Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and other applicable state laws pertaining to Veterans.~~
- ~~4. To promote utilization of benefits available pursuant to the laws of the Navajo Nation.~~
- ~~5. To identify, prioritize and advocate for program services to assist special needs to Navajo Veterans.~~

~~6. To identify, prioritize and advocate for program services to assist special needs of Navajo Veterans.~~

~~7. To advocate for the preferential treatment of veterans in business and employment.~~

~~8. To report from time to time and as requested to the Navajo Nation on the status of Navajo Nation Office of Veterans Affairs.~~

Article V — Organization

~~1. The Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs shall be administratively responsible within the Division of Human Resources, to the Executive Director.~~

~~2. The Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs shall have a central office located in Window Rock Arizona and may locate sub offices in each agency and satellite areas of the Navajo Nation.~~

~~3. The organizational chart for the Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs is attached and incorporated as "Exhibit A" herein.~~

Article VI — Personnel

~~A. The Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs shall be supervised by a Department Director who shall be appointed selected and employed by the Executive Director of the Division of Human Resources pursuant to and in accordance with the Navajo Nation Personnel Policies Manual. The Department Director shall be an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation and preferably, an honorably discharged Veteran.~~

~~B. The Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs' staff shall be selected, employed, supervised and terminated by the Department Director, pursuant to and in accordance with the Navajo Nation~~

~~Personnel Policies Manual and all other laws, regulation and benefits applicable to employees of the Navajo Nation.~~

Article VII Legislative Oversight

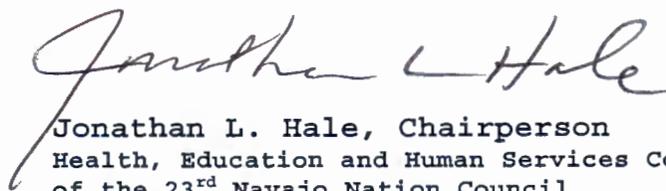
~~Legislative oversight for the operation of the Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs shall be provided by the Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council. In consultation with the Human Services Committee, the Budget and Finance Committee of the Navajo Nation Council shall provide the Loan Program oversight.~~

Article VIII Amendments

~~This Plan of Operation for the Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs may be amended from time to time by the Government Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council upon recommendation of the Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council and the Budget and Finance Committee of the Navajo Nation Council relating to Navajo Veterans' Loan Program.~~

CERTIFICATION

I, hereby, certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Navajo Nation Council at duly called meeting at Navajo Nation Council Chamber, Window Rock, Arizona, at which a quorum was present and that same was passed by a vote of 3 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2016



Jonathan L. Hale, Chairperson  
Health, Education and Human Services Committee  
of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Navajo Nation Council

Motion : Honorable Nathaniel Brown  
Second : Honorable Norman M. Begay  
Vote : 3 in favor, 0 Opposed, 1 Abstained  
Chairperson not voting



CJA-3-16

RESOLUTION OF THE  
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

23<sup>rd</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- Second Year, 2016

AN ACT

RELATING TO LAW AND ORDER, HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; ESTABLISHING THE NAVAJO NATION VETERANS ADMINISTRATION AND NAVAJO NATION VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL AND AMENDING 2 N.N.C. § 1703 AND 1704

BE IT ENACTED:

Section One. Findings

- A. The Law and Order Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 601(B)(14), reviews and makes recommendations to the Navajo Nation Council on proposed amendments to and enactments in the Navajo Nation Code.
- B. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 401(B)(6), has the power to review and recommend resolutions relating to veterans and veteran services.
- C. The Naabik'iyáti' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 164(A)(9), reviews proposed legislation which requires final action by the Navajo Nation Council.
- D. The purpose of this legislation is to establish a veterans' administration under the Office of the President and Vice President, which effectively and efficiently provides outreach, services and benefits to veterans.
- E. The legislation also establishes a Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council to recognize veterans and ensure veteran participation in policy and data system development.

- F. Since the time of Naayéé'neizghání and Tóbájishchíní, Navajos revere and respect warriors in our society.
- G. Native American Tribes throughout North America have participated and contributed to the United States Government through acts of military service in every minor and major military conflict that the United States has been involved in.
- H. Today, Native Americans represent the highest per capita for military enlistment of any ethnic group in the United States Military and the Navajo Nation foresees this to continue of further Native American Generations to come.
- I. It is appropriate to recognize all Navajo veterans of foreign wars and military service men and women who have provided distinguished service and their families.
- J. It is essential to recognize and honor Navajo veterans for their remarkable military service and sacrifice.
- K. The Navajo Code Talkers exemplify the exceptional military service that is unique to the Navajo people through the use of the Navajo language to defend our homeland.
- L. Navajo veterans work tirelessly at the local level to ensure Navajo veterans are recognized for their extraordinary service in protecting our homeland.
- M. There is a need to ensure that Navajo veterans have direct involvement in policy-making decisions regarding veteran's services and benefits;
- N. It is necessary to ensure veterans on the Navajo Nation have access to creating Navajo, federal, and state benefit claims without being hindered by long distance travel.
- O. Veterans' programs and services are a priority for all veterans.
- P. The Executive Director position shall be created through a contract to provide flexibility, stability and continuity.

- Q. The Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs must be a separate Administration within the Executive branch to seek recognition from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.
- R. Navajo veterans face tremendous challenges accessing veterans' benefits and services for health care, housing, education, and employment, often times traveling hundreds of miles round trip from Navajo communities to federal Veterans Administration health care facilities or service offices.
- S. The Office of the President and Vice-President, in collaboration with the Department of Veterans Affairs, Division of Health and the Agency Veteran's Organizations, conducted eight public hearings on the establishment of the veterans' administration at various locations including Fort Defiance, Chinle, To'naness'dizi, Crownpoint, Tohajiilee, Nenahnezad, Tolani Lake and Shiprock and received numerous comments on the proposal for a veterans' administration.
- T. It is in the best interest of Navajo Nation Veterans that an executive level administration be established to ensure quality services are provided to those Veterans and may partner with other veterans organizations.

**Section Two. Establishing the Navajo Veterans Administration**

The Navajo Nation hereby establishes the Navajo Veterans Administration within the Navajo Nation Code, Title 2, Sections 1031 et seq., as follows:

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**TITLE 2. NAVAJO NATION GOVERNMENT**

**CHAPTER 5. EXECUTIVE BRANCH**

**SUBCHAPTER 1. Generally**

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Article 3. Navajo Nation Veterans Administration

§ 1031. Navajo Nation Veterans Administration establishment

- A. The Navajo Nation Veterans Administration is established under the Office of the President and Vice-President of the Navajo Nation. The President of the Navajo Nation, after consultation with the Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council, shall retain by contract for a term of six (6) years an Executive Director who shall head the Veterans Administration.
- B. The Navajo Nation Veterans Administration shall perform its assigned functions as identified in its approved Plan of Operation.

§ 1032. Responsibility and Authority

- A. The Navajo Nation Veterans Act is enacted to establish an executive administration that effectively and efficiently provides outreach, services and benefits to veterans.
- B. In carrying out its responsibilities the Administration, through the Executive Director, is authorized to:

Assist individuals in presenting, providing, and establishing claims, privileges, rights and benefits they may have under Navajo, federal, state, or local law.

1. Create outreach services in relation to health, education, employment, housing, and benefits.
2. Collect information relating to veterans as such services and facilities available to Veterans.
3. Adopt rules deemed necessary to administer this Act.
5. Enter into agreements with Veterans' organizations in the Navajo Nation for the purpose of the Navajo Nation Veterans Trust Funds pursuant to 12 N.N.C. Sections 1171 et seq.

6. Adopt necessary procedures to effectively and efficiently provide services to Veterans.
7. Provide administrative support and technical assistance to the Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council.
8. Seek external funding to ensure creation, expansion and improvement of programs serving veterans throughout the Navajo Nation.
9. Coordinate and collaborate within the Navajo Nation government, health care facilities, educational institutions, employment entities, and housing programs providing services for Veterans.
10. Advocate for and promote health care services, educational opportunities, employment opportunities, and housing programs for veterans.

Article 4 Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council

§ 1033. Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council Establishment

- A. The Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council is established under the Executive Branch of the Navajo Nation government.
- B. The purpose and authority of the Veterans Advisory Council is to provide policy advice to the President of the Navajo Nation regarding veteran issues and concerns.
- C. Membership, selection, terms of office
  1. A Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council is established consisting of eleven (11) members.
  2. The Advisory Council shall consist of the ten (10) Agency Veteran Commanders, one ((1) female and one (1) male selected by each Agency, as the designated voting members with the Administration Executive Director acting as a non-voting member.

3. The Advisory Council shall select from its members a Chair.
4. Designated members shall be Veterans selected and/or removed by the respective Chapter Veteran Organizations.
5. The Council shall meet on a quarterly basis and as necessary. Voting members shall receive meeting stipend and travel expense reimbursement pursuant Navajo Nation laws, policies and procedures and budget.

§ 1034. Oversight

The Navajo Nation authorizes the establishment of the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration and the Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council. Legislative oversight shall be provided by the Health, Education, and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, which will have final approval of the respective plans of operation.

§ 1035. Amendments

This Articles may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Navajo Nation Council upon recommendation from the Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council.

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**Section Three. Amending 2 N.N.C. §§ 1703 and 1704**

The Navajo Nation hereby amends the Navajo Nation Code, Title 2, Sections 1703 and 1704 as follows:

**TITLE 2. NAVAJO NATION GOVERNMENT**

**Chapter 5. Executive Branch**

**SUBCHAPTER 27. Division of Human Resources**

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§ 1703. Personnel and organization

B. Organization.

1. The Division of Human Resources shall be comprised of programs and administrative components as may be deemed necessary subject to legislative review and approval of the department's and/or program's plans of operation.
2. The Division of Human Resources shall consist of the following departments and offices:
  - a. Department of Personnel Management
  - b. Navajo Department of Workforce Development
  - c. Navajo Department of Retirement Services
  - ~~d. Department of Veterans Affairs.~~
  - e-d. Office of Broadcast Services
  - f-e. Office of Navajo Labor Relations
  - g-f. Office of Navajo Women and Families
  - h-g. Navajo Office of Vital Records
  - i-h. Navajo Occupational Safety and Health Administration
  - j-i. Department of Child Support Enforcement
  - k-j. Staff Development and Training Program
  - l-k. Navajo Nation Band

§ 1704. Responsibility and Authority

A. The Division of Human Resources provides centralized and decentralized human resources program services to the Navajo Nation government. The Division management is accountable to the President of the Navajo Nation for performance of its functional responsibilities in an effective and efficient manner. All management Personnel within the Division shall have sufficient authority established by their plans of operation to perform their job responsibilities not inconsistent with the Master Plan or Navajo law.

~~B. The Department of Veterans Affairs shall develop and implement all veterans program services that are funded by Navajo Nation General Funds in accordance with the definition:~~

~~A Navajo veteran is an individual who is enrolled member of the Navajo Nation and has been discharged under honorable conditions from the United States military service with a DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty.~~

CB. The Executive Director of the Division of Human Resources shall have the following responsibilities and authorities:...

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**Section Four. Rescinding CO-39-10**

The Navajo Nation, in amending the above Title 2, Chapter 5, Subchapter 27, Section 1704, hereby rescinds CO-39-10 which specifically amended Section 1704 B.

**Section Five. Effective Date**

The Navajo Nation Code amendment enacted herein shall be effective pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 221(B).

**Section Six. Codification**

The provisions of this Act which amend or adopt new sections of the Navajo Nation Code shall be codified by the Office of Legislative Counsel. The Office of Legislative Counsel shall incorporate such amended provisions in the next codification of the Navajo Nation Code.

**Section Seven. Saving Clause**

Should any provisions of this ordinance be determined invalid by the Navajo Nation Supreme Court, or the District Courts of the Navajo Nation, without appeal to the Navajo Nation Supreme Court, those portions of this ordinance which are not determined invalid shall remain the law of the Navajo Nation.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting in Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona) at which a quorum was present and that the same was passed by a vote of 20 in favor and 0 opposed, this 26th day of January 2016.



LoRenzo Bates, Speaker  
Navajo Nation Council

Feb 3, 2016

Date

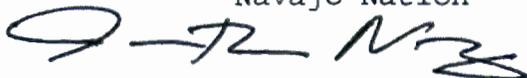
Motion: Honorable Jonathan Perry  
Second: Honorable Davis Filfred

ACTION BY THE NAVAJO NATION PRESIDENT:

1. I hereby sign into law the foregoing legislation, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §1005 (C) (10), on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February 2016.



Russell Begaye, President  
Navajo Nation



2. I hereby veto the foregoing legislation, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §1005 (C) (11), this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2016 for the reason(s) expressed in the attached letter to the Speaker.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Russell Begaye, President  
Navajo Nation