

Class 'B' Resolution  
Area Approval Required.

RESOLUTION OF THE  
NAVAJO TRIBAL COUNCIL

Creating a Navajo Veterans Commission and  
Amending the Fiscal Year 1982 Navajo Tribal Budget by  
Appropriating \$2,000,000 from Unappropriated Surplus  
Funds for Purposes of Navajo Veterans Programs

WHEREAS:

1. Navajo veterans have compiled an extraordinary record of military service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States; and
2. Presidents from Calvin Coolidge to incumbent President Reagan have expressly commended Navajos for their extraordinary bravery in courage and for the contribution made to the military by the Navajo Nation; and
3. Navajo veterans have never been able to gain treatment and benefits from the federal government on a parity with other veterans -- and in many cases have been totally excluded from key benefits and programs instituted expressly for the benefit of veterans; and
4. Foremost among these are veterans housing benefits including Home Loans, and veterans medical care but encompassing numerous other facets; and
5. The total number of living Navajo veterans and veteran-dependent Navajos reach into the tens of thousands; and
6. Recently, the United States government appears to have manifested a new receptiveness to express the nation's indebtedness and repay its gratitude to the Navajo Nation for the contribution of its veterans as a result of the convergence of several events, including but not limited to the following:
  - A. Actions taken by Navajo veterans to organize as a cohesive, united and dynamic group;
  - B. Media coverage of the Navajo Code Talkers;
  - C. The creation of a new all-Navajo Marine Platoon;
  - D. The Washington focused initiative involving numerous discussions between tribal officials and federal departments and agencies;

and

7. This new receptiveness to respond to the special needs of the Navajo people comes in part because of an awareness of the peculiar irony and unfairness that arises because of the grave unemployment and acute hardship that national economic policies have had on the Navajo Nation when the Navajo Nation has contributed so unstintingly to the military security of the United States; and

8. It is in the best interest of the Navajo Nation to create a Veterans Commission which would be vested with responsibility to assess the needs of Navajo veterans, to seek out additional funds for veterans programs, to prioritize veterans programs, and to recommend implementation of programs dependent upon the availability of funds; and

9. On February 8, 1982, the Budget and Finance Committee of the Navajo Tribal Council considered the issue of creation of a Veterans Commission and determined that there are sufficient funds in the Unappropriated Surplus of the Navajo Tribe to recommend to the Navajo Tribal Council that \$2,000,000 be appropriated in Fiscal Year 1982 for veterans programs as set forth below.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Navajo Tribal Council does hereby establish a Navajo Veterans Commission, which shall submit an Annual Report to the Chairman, Navajo Tribal Council, and the Tribal Council.

2. A proposed Plan of Operation for the Commission shall be developed for submission to the Advisory Committee for review and approval at the earliest possible moment.

3. The Commission shall be composed of no less than five and no more than ten persons, all of whom shall be veterans, representing each of the five agencies and including veterans who have served in World War I, World War II, the Korean conflict and in Viet Nam, and containing at least one Tribal Council Delegate and one representative of the Office of the Chairman.

4. The Commission's special mandate shall be to identify and assess Navajo veterans' needs, prioritize those needs and make recommendations for the expenditure of funds from a revolving account established as set forth below, for the funding of special programs or expansion of programs to be implemented through the existing tribal government divisions.

5. The Navajo Tribal Council does hereby amend the Fiscal Year 1982 Tribal Budget by appropriating \$125,000 from the Unappropriated Surplus as a budget for the administration and staff of the Navajo Veterans Commission, pursuant to Exhibit "A".

6. The Navajo Tribal Council does further hereby amend the Fiscal Year 1982 Tribal Budget by establishing through the appropriate

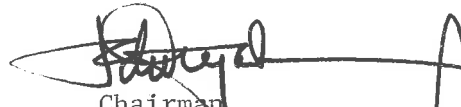
tribal financial mechanism a revolving account in the amount of \$1,875,000 from the Unappropriated Surplus for the purpose of initiating, implementing, expanding or improving various veterans programs as identified and prioritized by the Navajo Veterans Commission.

7. To the maximum extent possible, such funds shall be used to generate additional state, federal or tribal funds in order to insure the maximum return for the dollar by use as match or by increasing the effectiveness or responsiveness of some ongoing program identified as having the potential to meet a high priority veteran need including but not limited to housing, medical care, employment assistance, employment preference, or increased participation in federal veteran benefit program.

8. A Plan of Operation governing the use of the Veterans Revolving Fund shall be submitted to the Budget and Finance Committee of the Navajo Tribal Council and thereafter to the Advisory Committee of the Navajo Tribal Council for approval at the earliest possible moment.

#### CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Navajo Tribal Council at a duly called meeting at Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona), at which a quorum was present and that same was passed by a vote of 73 in favor and 3 opposed, this 10th day of February, 1982.

  
Chairman  
Navajo Tribal Council

SEVEN MONTH BUDGET OF  
 VETERANS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  
 AND NAVAJO VETERANS COMMISSION  
 MARCH 01 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 1982

<u>100</u>	<u>PERSONNEL SERVICES</u>		\$77,062
101	Veterans Service Manager (Window Rock)	\$10,771	
102	Secretary I	5,997	
103	Veteran Service Officer (Shiprock)	9,769	
104	Veteran Service Officer (Chinle)	9,769	
105	Veteran Service Officer (Tuba City)	9,769	
106	Veteran Service Officer (Crownpoint)	9,769	
107	Veteran Service Officer (Fort Defiance)	9,769	
199	Fringe Benefits @ 17.45%	11,449	
<u>200</u>	<u>TRAVEL AND PER DIEM</u>		\$ 12,600
201	Assigned Vehicle Use (Leasing purposes only-to be used to transport veterans to regional offices. 1 trip per month)	\$ 2,000	
202	Personal Travel Expense (\$5,600 for office personnel and \$3,600 for commission members)	9,200	
203	Commercial Fares (2 trips to Washington, D.C. @ \$700/trip)	1,400	
<u>300</u>	<u>SUPPLIES</u>		\$13,538
301	Office Supplies	\$ 1,000	
302	Postage	1,000	
303	Printing	1,000	
304	Dues & Subscriptions	519	
305	Operating Supplies	6,000	
306	Photocopy/Promotion Usage	4,019	
<u>400</u>	<u>LEASE/RENTAL/UTILITIES</u>		\$ 2,000
404	Building Rental	\$ 2,000	

500 CONTRACTUAL SERVICES/TRANSACTION \$ 4,800

510	Education & Training	\$ 2,000
550	Stipends	2,800
	(A commission of 5 members \$40/meeting -- 2 meetings per month)	

800 OTHER BUDGET EXPENDITURES \$15,000

825	Other Expenditures	\$15,000
	(General Assistance to include Burial, Legal Documentation and Representation, Burnout Assistance, Expenses involved in getting the veteran from his home to the appropriate tribal and federal offices to be reviewed and interviewed for determination of eligibility, and in addition, provide assistance for active duty personnel in extreme emergency cases.)	