

RESOLUTION OF THE
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

Supporting the Navajo Nation's Efforts In Securing
the Vacated Public Health Service (PHS) Hospital and
Other Adjacent Vacated Facilities Located in Fort
Defiance, Arizona to be Utilized to House Veterans
Programs and Navajo Division of Health Programs

WHEREAS:

1. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §102(A); and

2. On June 4, 1940, the Navajo Tribal Council by Resolution CJ-5-40 pledged its loyalty to stand ready, to aid and defend the Government of the United States of America against all subversive and armed conflicts and pledged loyalty to the system which recognized minority rights and the Navajo Way of Life; and

3. Since then, thousands of Navajo men and women have served with the different branches of the U.S. Armed Forces and served in the different war eras and peacetime in doing its part to ensure Freedom is maintained; and

4. The unbreakable Navajo Code was utilized by the famous Navajo Code Talkers during World War II in the Pacific-Asiatic Campaign, which was never broken by the enemy, which shortened the war, thereby saving thousands of lives; and

5. Today, many of our Navajo Veterans, like their brother and sister Veterans, are experiencing post-war and post-military physical and mental health problems, such as post-traumatic stress disorders and are in need of other specialty care and appropriate facilities; and

6. Many of our Veterans from World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War are at an age where they require better health care and professional services; and

7. The Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, the oversight Committee for Division of Human Resources and Veterans Programs, passed Resolution HSCAP-20-03 dated April 14, 2003 that supports the request to utilize the old hospital to house veterans programs, see attached Exhibit "A"; and

8. Although the Navajo Nation Veterans desire a new clinic and/or health care facilities, it is only appropriate at this time that the old vacated Public Health Service (PHS) Hospital located in Fort Defiance, Arizona be renovated and utilized to house veterans programs and Navajo Division of Health programs.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Navajo Nation Council supports the Navajo Nation's efforts in securing the vacated old Public Health Service (PHS) Hospital and other adjacent facilities in Fort Defiance, Arizona to be utilized to house veterans programs and Navajo Division of Health programs.

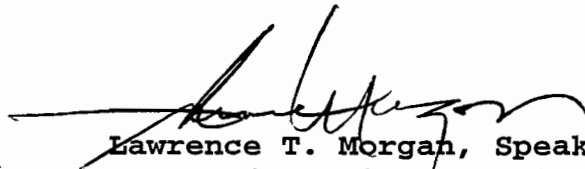
2. The Navajo Nation Council requests the Area Director of Navajo Area Bureau of Indian Affairs to strongly consider and prioritize the Navajo Nation's request to utilize the old Fort Defiance (PHS) Hospital facilities to house veterans programs and Navajo Division of Health programs.

3. The Navajo Nation Council further requests the Area Director for Navajo Area Indian Health Services (NAIHS) to work with Carl T. Hayden, VA Medical Center Director of Phoenix, Arizona to ensure that Navajo Veterans are afforded proper health care, facilities and funding through appropriate means.

4. The Navajo Nation Council requests the Navajo Nation President, Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs and Navajo Nation Property and Supply to coordinate their efforts in working with appropriate agencies in realization of appropriate VA health care services on 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 same was passed by a vote of 62 in favor, 0 opposed and 1 abstained, this 2nd day of May 2003.


Lawrence T. Morgan, Speaker
Navajo Nation Council
07 May 2003
Date

Motion: Larry Noble
Second: Young Jeff Tom

HSCAP-20-03

RESOLUTION OF THE
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE

**Requesting the Navajo Nation Council to Support the Efforts of Department
of Navajo Veterans Affairs in Securing the Old Fort Defiance Public Health
Service Hospital and other Adjacent Vacated Facilities to be Utilized to
House the Navajo Veterans Program**

WHEREAS:

1. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §§ 601 and 604 (B), (1), (3) and (5), the Human Services Committee is established and continued as a Standing Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, and is empowered to promulgate regulations for the enforcement and implementation of the labor laws and policies of the Navajo Nation and laws relating to Veterans services, to recommend legislation regarding employment, training and Veterans services, and to serve as the oversight authority for the Division for Human Resources; and
2. Pursuant to Resolution No. GSCAU-49-91 of the Government Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, one of the Department of Navajo Veteran Affairs' purpose is to seek 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; and
3. The Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs under the Division of Human Resources was also established to foster the interests of the Navajo Veterans by advocating and providing administration oversight and coordination of Veterans programs and services of federal, state and tribal governments and private agencies; and
4. Navajo Tribal Officials and Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs in the past years have had numerous discussions and meetings with the Indian Health Service, Veterans Administration Medical Center(s), the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and even submitted the Veterans Administration issues and testimonies to establish a Veterans Administration Clinic, hospital and/or establish sharing agreements between the Indian Health Service and the Veterans Administration Medical Center to provide quality health care services to enrolled Native American Indian Veterans which has not been fully addressed; and

5. The old Fort Defiance Public Health Service Hospital and adjacent facilities were vacated by the Indian Health Service who moved into the new facility during the summer of 2002; however, the old facility is still in sound condition that still could be utilized and which require some renovations; and
6. The Shanahgo Ina Bahaz'a, Incorporation is a non-profit organization recently submitted an application and a use plan for the old Fort Defiance Hospital to be used for Elderly Care for Aging Veterans, among other Veteran services which is supported by the Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs; and
7. It is known that the Bureau of Indian Affairs recently announced its intentions to assume the vacant facilities in Fort Defiance; and
8. It is only appropriate that the facilities, all or a portion of it be utilized to house Veterans programs such as the Veterans Administration Clinic and other specialty care and services, such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Counseling, Women Veterans Physicians, etc., which are much needed on the Navajo Nation.

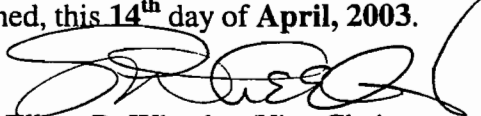
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council requests the Navajo Nation Council to support the efforts of Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs in securing the old Fort Defiance Public Health Service Hospital and other adjacent vacated facilities to be utilized to house the Veterans Program.
2. The Human Services Committee also request the Navajo Nation Council to request the Navajo Area Bureau of Indian Affairs Area Director to strongly consider and prioritize the Navajo Nation's requests to utilize the old Fort Defiance Public Health Service facilities to house the Veterans Program.
3. The Human Services Committee further requests the Navajo Nation Council to request the Area Director of Navajo Area Indian Health Service (NAIHS) and the Carl T. Hayden Veterans Administration Medical Center Director of Phoenix, Arizona to work together to ensure that Navajo Veterans be afforded proper health care delivery and services through the appropriate funding, provisions for health care professionals and development of sharing agreements.

4. The Human Services Committee also requests of the Navajo Nation Property and Supply Office to coordinate with the appropriate officials, agencies and offices to ensure the facilities be made a priority to house the Veterans Program.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation 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 5 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstained, this 14th day of April, 2003.


Elbert R. Wheeler, Vice Chairperson
Human Services Committee

Motion: Young Jeff Tom
Second: Woody Lee