

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0224-24_

SPONSOR: Herman M. Daniels Jr.

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Naabik'íyáti' Committee and the Navajo Nation Council; Approving the Reinstatement of Colen Nicklis Atene as a Member of the Navajo Nation

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0224-24

DATE: October 3, 2024

**TITLE OF RESOLUTION: PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION;
AN ACTION RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE AND THE NAVAJO
NATION COUNCIL; APPROVING THE REINSTATEMENT OF COLEN NICKLIS
ATENE AS A MEMBER OF THE NAVAJO NATION**

PURPOSE: This legislation, if approved, will approve reinstatement of Colen Nicklis Atene as an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation.

FINAL AUTHORITY: Navajo Nation Council

VOTE REQUIRED: Simple Majority Vote

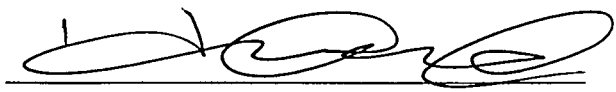
This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committee. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each Council Delegate to review the proposed resolution in detail.

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD Al Mike III
Website Posting Time/Date _____
Posting End Date: 10/9/24
Eligible for Action: 10/10/24

Naabik'iyáti' Committee
Thence
Navajo Nation Council

1 PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION
2 25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – Second Year, 2024

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 
5

6 (Prime Sponsor)

7
8 TRACKING NO. 0224-24

9
10 AN ACTION

11 RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE AND THE NAVAJO NATION
12 COUNCIL; APPROVING THE REINSTATEMENT OF COLEN NICKLIS ATENE AS
13 A MEMBER OF THE NAVAJO NATION

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15 BE IT ENACTED:

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17 SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- 18 A. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §
19 102(A).
- 20 B. A proposed resolution that requires final action by the Navajo Nation Council shall be
21 assigned to the Naabik'iyáti' Committee. 2 N.N.C. §164(A)(9).
- 22 D. Any enrolled member of the Navajo Nation may renounce his or her membership
23 through written petition to the President of the Navajo Nation requesting his or her name
24 be stricken from the Navajo Nation census roll. However, reinstatement of membership
25 with the Navajo Nation is permitted, provided such reinstatement is approved by
26 majority vote of the Navajo Nation Council. 1 N.N.C. § 705.
- 27 E. To be eligible for membership in the Navajo Nation, an individual cannot be enrolled as
28 a member of any other tribe of Indians. 1 N.N.C. § 703.

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30 SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- 1 A. Colen Nicklis Atene was previously enrolled with the Navajo Nation, “being of ¾
2 degree Navajo Indian Blood.” See **Exhibit A**, official record containing census number
3 and Certificate of Navajo Indian Blood recorded December 23, 1998 by the Navajo
4 Nation Vital Statistics Manager.
- 5 B. Colen Nicklis Atene relinquished membership with the Navajo Nation and enrolled with
6 the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe. However, Colen Nicklis Atene disenrolled with the
7 Duckwater Shoshone Tribe. On April 14, 2021, the Duckwater Shoshone Tribal
8 Council, by resolution number 2021-D-11 officially approved his disenrollment. See
9 **Exhibit B**, resolution of the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe numbered 2021-D-11. By this
10 action, Colen Nicklis Atene’s “benefits and privileges ... enjoyed as a member of the
11 Duckwater Shoshone Tribe” were effectively revoked.
- 12 C. On September 25, 2021, the Oljato Chapter, in response to request for reinstatement,
13 passed resolution OLJ09-02-2021-NB2, “SUPPORTING ... REINSTATEMENT OF
14 COLEN NICKLIS ATENE AS A MEMBER OF THE NAVAJO NATION.” See
15 **Exhibit C**, Oljato Chapter Resolution.
- 16 D. Colen Nicklis Atene is eligible for reinstatement as a member of the Navajo Nation.

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18 **SECTION THREE. REINSTATEMENT OF COLEN NICKLIS ATENE**

19 The Navajo Nation Council hereby approves the reinstatement of Colen Nicklis Atene
20 as an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation. Colen Nicklis Atene shall hereinafter be
21 entitled to all rights, benefits and privileges associated with Navajo Nation membership.
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