

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: 0256-24

SPONSOR: Vince R. James

TITLE: An Action Relating to Health, Education, and Human Services Committee, the Budget and Finance Committee, and the Naabik'íyáti' Committee; Approving a Contract between the Navajo Nation and the U.S. Department of Interior Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. §5301 et seq. (P.L. 93-638, as amended) for the Office of Vital Records Under the Navajo Nation Division of Human Resources, Beginning January 1, 2025 and Ending December 31, 2025

Date posted: November 26, 2024 at 4:47 PM

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SUMMARY OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Tracking No. 0256-24

DATE: November 26, 2024

RE: AN ACTION RELATING TO THE HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE, AND THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; APPROVING A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE NAVAJO NATION AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR PURSUANT TO 25 U.S.C. §5301 *ET SEQ.* (P.L. 93-638, AS AMENDED) FOR THE OFFICE OF VITAL RECORDS UNDER THE NAVAJO NATION DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES, BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025

PURPOSE OF THIS LEGISLATION:

to approve a ISDEAA/P.L. 638 contract and related documents
for federal funding for the Office of Vital Records.

FINAL AUTHORITY and VOTE REQUIREMENT:

The Naabik'íyáti Committee has final authority. A simple majority vote is required.

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD Al M. III
Website Posting Time/Date _____
Posting End Date: 12/01/24
Eligible for Action: 12/02/24

Health Education & Human Services Committee
Thence
Budget & Finance Committee
Thence
Naabik'iyáti' Committee

1 PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
2 25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - Second Year, 2024

3 Introduced by:

4 _____
5
6 Primary Sponsor



7
8 Tracking No. 0256-24

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10 AN ACTION

11 RELATING TO THE HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND HUMAN SERVICES
12 COMMITTEE, THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE, AND THE
13 NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; APPROVING A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE
14 NAVAJO NATION AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR PURSUANT
15 TO 25 U.S.C. §5301 *ET SEQ.* (P.L. 93-638, AS AMENDED) FOR THE OFFICE OF
16 VITAL RECORDS UNDER THE NAVAJO NATION DIVISION OF HUMAN
17 RESOURCES, BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025

18
19 BE IT ENACTED:

20
21 SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- 22 A. The Health, Education, and Human Services Committee is a standing committee of the
23 Navajo Nation Council with oversight authority over matters involving general
24 governmental services. 2 N.N.C. §401(C)(1).
- 25 B. The Budget and Finance Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council
26 authorized to approve and accept contracts from federal authorities upon the
27 recommendation of the oversight committee for the program requesting approval of the
28 contract. 2 N.N.C. §301(B)(15).
- 29 C. The Naabik'iyáti Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council
30 authorized to give final approval for contracts between the Navajo Nation and the United

1 States Department of Interior for implementation of the Indian Self-Determination and
2 Education Assistance Act, 25 U.S.C. §5301 *et seq.* (P.L. 93-638, as amended). 2 N.N.C.
3 §701(A)(11).
4

5 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

6 A. The Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, codified at 25 U.S.C. §5301
7 *et seq.* (Public Law 93-638, as amended) (“ISDEAA”) was enacted by the U.S. Congress in
8 1975 as a comprehensive means of providing recurring federal funding for Indian Nations to
9 act as true sovereigns in carrying out their own governmental functions and providing their
10 own governmental services for the general welfare of their enrolled members, their
11 communities, and the general public within Indian Country.

12 B. The Navajo Nation’s Office of Vital Records provides important and critical government
13 services to the Navajo People and our relatives regarding tribal enrollment, records
14 preservation and archiving, and related matters.

15 C. The Navajo Nation finds it in the best interests of the Navajo Nation and the Navajo People
16 to enter into a proposed ISDEAA Contract with the U.S. Department of Interior, including
17 the related “Annual Funding Agreement” and “Scope of Work” for the continuing operations
18 of the Office of Vital Records under the Navajo Nation Division of Human Resources. The
19 ISDEAA Contract and related documents are attached hereto as **EXHIBIT A**.

20 D. Pursuant to this contract, the U.S. Department of Interior will fund the continuing operations
21 of the Office of Vital Records for a one-year period, beginning January 1, 2025 and ending
22 December 31, 2025.

23 E. The ISDEAA Contract and related documents have been reviewed and deemed sufficient via
24 the Navajo Nation’s “Section 164 Review Form” (Document No. 023160), attached hereto
25 as **EXHIBIT B**.

26 27 **SECTION THREE. APPROVAL**

28 A. The Navajo Nation hereby approves the ISDEAA Contract, the related Annual Funding
29 Agreement, and the Scope of Work, all attached hereto as **EXHIBIT A**, between the Navajo
30 Nation and the United States Department of Interior pursuant to 25 U.S.C. §5301 *et seq.* (P.L.

1 93-638, as amended) for a five-year term beginning January 1, 2025 and ending December
2 31, 2025, for the continuing operations of the Office of Vital Records under the Navajo
3 Nation Division of Human Resources.

4 B. The Navajo Nation hereby authorizes the Navajo Nation President, or his duly authorized
5 designee or successor, to execute the Contract and related documents attached hereto as
6 **EXHIBIT A.**

7
8 **SECTION FOUR. EFFECTIVE DATE**

9 This Action shall be effective as provided in 2 N.N.C. §701(A)(11) and 2 N.N.C. §221(C).

10
11 **SECTION FIVE. SAVING CLAUSE**

12 If any part of this Action is determined invalid by the Navajo Nation Supreme Court, or by a
13 District Court of the Navajo Nation without appeal to the Navajo Nation Supreme Court, the
14 remainder of this Action shall be the law of the Navajo Nation.