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Title 15

Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. **CJA-03-12**

signed into law by President Ben Shelly on February 13, 2012.

Effective date February 13, 2012.

RESOLUTION OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

22ND NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - Second Year 2012

AN ACTION

RELATING TO BUDGET AND FINANCE AND NAABIKÍ'YÁTI'; ENACTING THE NAVAJO NATION WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT OF 2011

BE IT ENACTED:

Section 1. Enactment of the Navajo Nation Workers' Compensation Act of 2011

The Navajo Nation hereby enacts the Navajo Nation Workers' Compensation Act of 2011.

Section 2. Amendments to Title Fifteen

The Navajo Nation hereby amends Title 15, Labor, Navajo Nation Code, as follows:

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NAVAJO NATION CODE ANNOTATED TITLE 15. LABOR CHAPTER 11. WORKERS' COMPENSATION

§ 1001. Establishment of Workers' Compensation Act

- A. There shall be a program for workers' compensation for all employees of the Navajo Nation, including all enterprise and chapter employees, Council Delegates, chapter officials, and others as set out in 15 N.N.C. § $1002(A)(\frac{12}{12})$ ($\underline{12}$). This program shall be known as the Navajo Nation Workers' Compensation Program.
- B. This Act, as amended, shall apply to all workers' compensation claims arising from an accident which occurred after the effective date of this version of this the Act and all occupational disease disablement claims arising from a last injurious exposure which occurred after the effective date of this version of this the Act.

- § 1002. Definitions; exclusion of coverage; coverage and premium determinations
- A. Definitions. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:
- 1. "Accident" means an unforeseen event occurring without the will or design of the person whose mere act causes it; a sudden, unexpected, unusual, or undesigned occurrence; or the effect of an unknown cause or, the cause, being known an unprecedented consequence of it, provided, however, that no incident shall be considered an accident that does not involve a sudden and discernable physical trauma or event.
- 2. "Act of God" means an act occasioned exclusively by forces of nature without the interference of human agency.
- 3. "Administrative cost" means operational expenses associated with claims process through the Navajo Nation Workers' Compensation Program.
- 3. "Adoption" shall include cases where persons are treated as adopted as well as those of legal adoption.
- 5 4"Artificial member" means a fabricated substitute replacing a diseased or missing part of the body for a body part, to include eye(s) and/or other teeth removed because of trauma or disease.
 - 65. "Average weekly wage" means the earnings of the claimant in the employment in which he or she was working at the time of the injury during the period ninety-one (91) days immediately preceding the date of the injury, divided by thirteen (13) weeks, unless the claimant was working for less than ninety-one (91) days prior to the injury. In that event, the wages earned prior to the injury in the employment in which he or she was working at the time of injury, divided by the number of days in the employment he or she was working at the time of the injury, and multiplied by the average number of scheduled work days per week during the period, shall be the average weekly wage.

- A. A claimant entitled to compensation shall submit himself or herself for medical examination or treatment selected and paid for by the Workers' Compensation Program from time to time at a place reasonably convenient for the worker, if and when requested by the Workers' Compensation Program.
- B. The request for the medical examination or treatment shall fix a time and place having regard to the convenience of the claimant, his or her physical condition and ability to attend. The claimant may have a physician present at the examination if procured and paid for by the claimant.
- C. If the claimant refuses to submit to the medical examination or treatment or obstructs the examination or treatment, his or her right to compensation shall be suspended until the claimant submits to the examination or treatment has been made, and no compensation shall be payable during or for such period.
- D. Any physician health care provider who conducts or is present at the medical examination or treatment may be requested by the Workers' Compensation Program to testify provide evidence as to the result thereof; and the reasonable cost of this appearance activity shall be at the expense of the Workers' Compensation Program.

§ 1031 1034. Liability of third person to claimant; subrogation powers

A. If Subject to 15 N.N.C. § 1015, a claimant entitled to receiving compensation under this Act is injured or killed by the negligence or wrong doing of another, such claimant may pursue his or her remedy for injury or death caused by the negligence or wrong doing of a person or business entity other than the Navajo Nation, its enterprises, political subdivisions, officials, or employees. against such other person while receiving compensation under this Act.

- B. The Navajo Nation shall have the right of subrogation for the amount of compensation and administrative costs paid or incurred under this Act.
- C. If the claimant entitled to compensation under this Act does not pursue a remedy against such other person or business by instituting an action within the applicable statute of limitations for the cause of action, one year after the cause of action accrues, the claim against such other person or business may be brought by the Navajo Nation. Such a claim shall be controlled by the Navajo Nation and shall be limited to the compensation and administrative costs paid or incurred.
- D. If a claimant proceeds against such other person or business, compensation shall be paid as provided in this Act and the Navajo Nation shall have a lien on the amount actually collectable from such other person or business to the extent of such compensation and administrative costs paid or incurred.
- E. Compromise of any claim by the claimant at an amount less that than the compensation paid shall be made only with written approval of the by the supervisor of the Workers' Compensation Program.

§ 1036. Limitation on indemnity benefits

A claimant may not recover indemnity benefits for the period of time that he or she is compensated by paid leave. No indemnity benefits shall be paid that result in a claimant receiving more than one hundred (100%) percent of his or her regular earnings. Paid leave time taken shall apply against the waiting period for indemnity payments.

\$ 1033 1037. Temporary total disability

A. Temporary total disability shall be paid at sixty-six and two-thirds percent (66-2/3%) percent of the "average weekly wage" to a maximum of four hundred dollars (\$400.00) six hundred fifty (\$650.00) dollars per week.

o. EYE-BOTH

See permanent total disability

- p. EAR-ONE

 - (2) Total deafness, both ears 135 weeks

q. EAR-BOTH

- (2) Total deafness, both ears, single traumatic incident
 See permanent total disability
- q. PERMANENT TOTAL DISABILITY 375 weeks
 - - 5. LOSS OF LIFE Loss of Life ______ 375 weeks

B. D. Permanent Partial Disability Calculation of benefits of for Non-Scheduled Permanent Impairment

- 1. For other nonscheduled permanent impairments, a calculation of percentage of permanent partial disability is made.
- 2. If an injury has left a claimant with a nonscheduled permanent bodily impairment, indemnity benefits for a specified number of weeks is payable shall be paid, without regard to presence or absence of wage loss in the future, and such benefits shall not may be paid as a lump sum or periodically, at the election of the claimant.
- 3. Permanent partial disability benefits for an injury to a scheduled, a non-scheduled body part member are calculated by multiplying the gross average weekly wage times the number of weeks provided for in the Benefits for Total Loss of Use times the percentage of permanent whole person impairment.

- 4. Permanent partial disability benefits for injury to the body as a whole are calculated by multiplying the gross average weekly wage times the number of weeks provided in the Benefits for Total Loss of Use times the percentage of permanent impairment.
- 4. For all non-scheduled injuries the health care provider shall provide a whole person impairment for the claimant pursuant to the most current version of American Medical Association Guides to the Evaluation of Physical Impairment. The health care provider shall use the protocol under the current version of American Medical Association Guides to the Evaluation of Physical Impairment for calculating the whole person impairment.
- A. E. Permanent Total Disability. An award of permanent total disability shall be in lieu of all lesser indemnity benefits that may be applicable to the injury that created the condition of permanent total disability. No claimant may receive more than three hundred seventy-five (375) weeks of indemnity benefits for any single accident or occupational disease exposure.

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Section 3. Effective Date

The Act is effective upon its approval pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §221.

Section 4. Codification

The provisions of this ordinance 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 5. 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 19 in favor and 0 opposed, this 25th day of January 2012.

Johnny Naize, Speaker, Navajo Nation Council

Fab. 07, 12

Motion: Alton Shepherd Second: Jonathan Nez

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 day of FEB 1 3 2012 2012.

Ben Shelly, President Navajo Nation

Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. CJA-03-12

related resolutions

RESOLUTION OF THE NAVAJO NATION INSURANCE COMMISSION

RECOMMENDING TO THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL THE APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE AMENDMENTS TO THE NAVAJO NATION WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT

WHEREAS:

- 1. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §§ 931 and 932, the Navajo Nation Insurance Commission is established and authorized to ensure adequate insurance coverage and protection for the Navajo Nation, its entities, and property; and,
- 2. Pursuant to 2 NNC § 933(A), the Navajo Nation Insurance Commission is authorized, subject to the approval of the Budget and Finance Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, to review, determine, select, and coordinate all insurance coverage and programs pertaining to the Navajo Nation, its entities and employees, including but not limited to workers' compensation insurance; and,
- 3. On October 22, 1997, the Navajo Nation Council, by Resolution CO-83-97, approved an amendment to the Navajo Nation Workers' Compensation Act provided for in 15 N.N.C. §§ 1001, et seq.; and,
- 4. The aforesaid Workers' Compensation Act (attached as Exhibit "A") has again been reviewed, revised, and amended to meet the current law of the Navajo Nation; to better meet the economic needs of both employers and employees participating in the Navajo Nation Workers' Compensation Program; and to provide for the development and implementation of additional rules and regulations for the administration of the Workers' Compensation Program; and,
- 5. On June 13 15, 2011, the Workers' Compensation Program provided a Work Session for the Navajo Nation Insurance Commission members and Navajo Nation Council Delegates; and,
- 6. The Navajo Nation Insurance Commission, upon review and discussions, deems it in the best interests of the Navajo Nation, its enterprises, chapters (political subdivisions of the Navajo Nation) and employees, to approve the proposed amendments to the Workers' Compensation Act.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- The Navajo Nation Insurance Commission hereby approves and recommends to the 1. Budget and Finance Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, the approval and adoption of the proposed amendments to the Workers' Compensation Act, 15 N.N.C. §§ 1001, et seq. as set out in Exhibit "A"; and,
- The Navajo Nation Insurance Commission hereby approves and recommends to the 2. Budget and Finance Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, the approval and adoption of proposed amendments to the Workers' Compensation Act, 15 N.N.C. §§ 1001, et seq. as set out in Exhibit "A" to go into effect on October 1, 2011 with the exception of § 1020 which will go into effect on October 1, 2012; and,
- 3. The Navajo Nation Insurance Commission hereby further directs the Navajo Nation Workers' Compensation Program to ensure that all lawfully authorized tribal governmental programs, enterprises, chapters (political subdivisions of the Navajo Nation) and employees continue with their participation in the amended Navajo Nation Workers' Compensation Act.

CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly considered by the Navajo Nation Insurance Commission at a duly called meeting in Window Rock, AZ at which time a quorum was present and that the same was passed by a vote of 3 In favor, opposed, and abstained, this 27thday of June 2011.

Navajo Nation Insurance Commission

Motioned by: Linda Youvella Seconded by: Ray Smith

FIRM NAME ADDRESS

Workers' Compensation Program
Navajo Nation Government
Window Rock, AZ 86515

TELEPHONE NO

(000) 000-0000

DIVISION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS REGULATORY DEPARTMENT

NAVAJO BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY ACT

	MANAJO BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY ACT	
n/a	I certify that the above named person or firm is a certified Navajo or other Indian owned firm in accordance with the provisions or current Navajo Tribal Law for enforcement of Navajo Opportunity in Tribal Contracting.	
n/a	I certify that the above named person or firm is not certified as a Navajo or other Indian Firm in accordance with the provision of current Navajo Tribal Law for enforcement of Navajo Opportunity in Tribal Contracting.	
n/a	No Certified Navajo or other Indian Firms available for contract performance.	
n/a	Attached contract has been let out for bid in accordance with all Tribal Contract Law - Navajo Business Opportunity Act (5 N.C.C. § 201 et. seq.), Navajo Nation Procurement Code (12 N.C.C. § 301 et. seq.), and Title Two (2 N.C.C. § 223) (Invitation to Bid attached)	
n/a	This proposed contract is in compliance with applicable Navajo Business Opportunity Act (5 N.C.C. § 201 et. seq.) and Navajo Nation Procurement Code (12 N.C.C. § 301 et. seq.) requirements. See Comments Below.	
AL. HWard / Department Manager 6/20/10		
	Signature Title Date	
Reviewed by: EPS Date: 62011		
COMMENTS (If any) Proposed Resolution of the Navajo insurance Commission to amend the Navajo Nation Workers' compensation Act. The Budget & Finance Committee		
has authority to review & approve legislative amendments and legislative action. The NBOA will not apply to legislative actions. Sign and Forward.		
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22nd NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

First Year 2011

Mr. Speaker:

The BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE to whom has been assigned

NAVAJO LEGISLATIVE BILL # 408-11:

An Action Relating to Budget and Finance and Naa'Bikiyati'; Enacting the Navajo Nation Worker's Compensation Act of 2011 Sponsored by the Honorable Walter Phelps, Council Delegate

has had it under consideration and reports the same with the recommendation that It Do Pass without amendment.

And therefore, referred to the NAA'BIKIYATI' Committee

Respectfully submitted,

LoRenzo Bates, Chairman

Not Adopted:

Legislative Advisor

Date: 21 October 2011

The vote was 4 in favor 0 opposed Excused: Lorenzo Curley

Absent:

LAW AND ORDER COMMITTEE 22nd NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

FIRST YEAR 2011

COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker,

The LAW AND ORDER COMMITTEE to whom has been assigned:

NAVAJO LEGISLATION NO. 0408-11

AN ACT RELATING TO BUDGET AND FINANCE AND NAABIK'IYATI ENACTING THE NAVAJO NATION WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT OF 2011. (Sponsored by Lorenzo Curley)

Has had it under consideration and report the same with a recommendation that it DO PASS, with one amendment:

not Page 51, Line 29, delete "upon its approval pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §221" and insert as new language "January 1, 2012", to read "The Act is effective January 1, 2012".

and therefore referred to BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Respectfully submitted,

Edmund Mazzie Chairperson
Law and Order Committee of the 22nd Navajo Nation Council

Date: October 11, 2011

The vote was 3 in favor and 1 opposed

Motion: Russell Begaye Second: Elmer Begay

NAA'BIK'IYATI COMMITTEE REPORT 22ND NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - First Year 2011

Mr. Speaker:

The NAA'BIK'IYATI COMMITTEE to whom has been assigned:

LEGISLATION NO. 0408-11 Introduced by Hon. Walter Phelps

AN ACTION

Relating to Budget and Finance and Naabik'iyati'; Enacting the Navajo Nation Workers' Compensation Act of 2011

has had it under consideration and reports the same with a **DO PASS** with TWO AMENDMENTS:

On page 11, line 23, insert new paragraph 1,: It is the intention of the Navajo Nation that ever claimant return to work as soon as possible, taking into account his or her medical condition and the necessary qualifications of available work. Health care providers shall only determine the medical condition of the claimant. It shall be the duty of every employer of an injured worker to make a good faith effort to provide employment opportunities to the claimant consist with his or her medical condition and the necessary qualifications for work as started in the job description.

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Existing section 1 will become paragraph 2.

On page 13, line 22 to line 29, delete the entire Section "D" Termination of Claimants.

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and thence referred to the Navajo Nation Council.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing legislation was duly considered by the Naa'bik'iyati' 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 the same was passed with a vote of 12 in favor 6 opposed this 22nd day of December 2011.

Mr. Johnny Naize, Chairperson Naa bik'iyati Committee

MOTION: Nelson Begaye SECOND: David Tom

Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. **CJA-05-13**

signed into law by President Ben Shelly on February 14, 2013.

Effective date February 14, 2013.

RESOLUTION OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

22nd NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- Third Year, 2013

AN ACT

RELATING TO BUDGET AND FINANCE AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI'; AMENDING CHAPTER 11 OF TITLE 15 OF THE NAVAJO NATION CODE, WORKERS' COMPENSATION

BE IT ENACTED:

* * * *

Section 1. Amendments to Title Fifteen

The Navajo Nation hereby amends Title 15, Labor, Navajo Nation Code, as follows:

NAVAJO NATION CODE ANNOTATED TITLE 15. LABOR CHAPTER 11. WORKERS' COMPENSATION

§ 1035. Waiting Period

Indemnity benefits shall be paid under the provisions of this Act only for an injury which results in the claimant's disability for more than three (3) working days. If the period of the claimant's disability lasts for more than fourteen (14) days from the date of his or her injury, indemnity benefits shall be paid from the date of disability.

§ 1052. Benefits for permanent disability and death.

- D. Calculation of benefits for Non-Scheduled Permanent Impairment
 - 1. For nonscheduled permanent impairments, a calculation of percentage of permanent partial disability is made.

- 2. If an injury has left a claimant with a nonscheduled permanent bodily impairment, indemnity benefits for a specified number of weeks shall be paid, without regard to presence or absence of wage loss in the future, and such benefits may be paid as a lump sum or periodically, at the election of the claimant.
- 3. Permanent partial disability benefits for an injury to a non-scheduled body part are calculated by multiplying the gross average weekly wage times the number of weeks provided for in the Benefits for-Permanent Total Disability times the percentage of whole person impairment.
- 4. For all non-scheduled injuries the health care provider shall provide a whole person impairment for the claimant pursuant to the most current version of American Medical Association Guides to the Evaluation of Physical Impairment. The health care provider shall use the protocol under the current version of American Medical Association Guides to the Evaluation of Physical Impairment for calculating the whole person impairment.

* * * *

Section 2. Effective Date

The Act is effective upon its approval pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §221.

Section 3. Codification

The provisions of this ordinance 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 4. 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 17 in favor and 1 opposed, this 29th day of January, 2013.

Jonathan Nez, Speaker Pro Tem Navajo Nation Council

02/05/13

Motion: Honorable Jonathan Hale

Second: Honorable Joshua Lavar Butler

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 _____ day of _____ 14 2013 2013.

Ben Shelly, President Navajo Nation

2. I hereby veto the foregoing legislation, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. \$1005 (C) (11), this _____ day of _____ 2013 for the reason(s) expressed in the attached letter to the Speaker.

Ben Shelly, President Navajo Nation

Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. CJA-05-13

related resolutions

RESOLUTION OF THE NAVAJO NATION INSURANCE COMMISSION

RECOMMENDING TO THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL THE APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE AMENDMENTS TO THE NAVAJO NATION WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT

WHEREAS:

- Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §§ 931 and 932, the Navajo Nation Insurance Commission is established and authorized to ensure adequate insurance coverage and protection for the Navajo Nation and it's entities, and property; and,
- 2. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 933, (A), the Navajo Nation Insurance Commission is authorized, subject to the approval of the Budget and Finance Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, to review and determine, select and coordinate all insurance coverage and programs pertaining to the Navajo Nation, its entities and employees, including but not limited to workers' compensation insurance; and,
- 3. On February 13, 2012, the Navajo Nation Council by Resolution CJA-03-12, approved an amendment to the Navajo Nation Workers' Compensation Act provided for in 15 N.N.C. §§ 1001, et seq. (attached as Exhibit "A"); and,
- 4. The Section 1035, The Waiting Period which was inadvertently left out of the aforesaid Workers' Compensation Act (attached as Exhibit "B") when it was approved by the Navajo Nation Council and the section is required to be reinserted; and,
- 5. A fragment of Section 1052, D. Calculation of benefits for non-scheduled permanent impairment, (3) was unintentionally struck when the aforesaid Workers' Compensation Act (attached as Exhibit "B") was approved by the Navajo Nation Council and the fragment is required to be reinserted with minimal revision; and,
- 6. The Navajo Nation Insurance Commission, upon review and discussions, deems it in the best interests of the Navajo Nation, its enterprises, chapters (political subdivisions of the Navajo Nation) and employees, to approve the proposed amendment to the Workers' Compensation Act.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The Navajo Nation Insurance Commission hereby approves and recommends to the Budget and Finance Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, the approval to reinsert Section 1035 The Waiting Period as set out in the attached (Exhibit "B") Workers' Compensation Act, 15 N.N.C., §§ 1001, et seq. that was approved by the Navajo Nation Council on February 13, 2012; and,
- The Navajo Nation Insurance Commission hereby approves and recommends to the Budget and Finance Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, the approval to reinsert a fragment of Section 1052, D. Calculation of benefits for Non-Scheduled Permanent Impairment, (3) with minimal revision as set out in the attached (Exhibit "B") Workers' Compensation Act, 15 N.N.C., §§ 1001, et seg. that was approved by the Navajo Nation Council on February 13, 2012; and,

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3. The Navajo Nation Insurance Commission hereby further directs the Navajo Nation Workers' Compensation Program to ensure that all lawful authorized tribal governmental programs, enterprises, chapters (political subdivisions of the Navajo Nation) and employees continue with their participation in the amended Navajo Nation Workers' Compensation Act.

CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly considered by the Navajo Nation Insurance Commission at a duly called meeting in Window Rock, AZ, at which a quorum was present and that same was passed by a vote of 3 in favor, [insert] opposed, and 0 abstained this 13th day of July , 2012.

Bernadette Bernally, Chairperson
Navajo Nation Insurance Commission

Motioned: Raymond Smith, Member Seconded: Harlan Charley, Member

Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. **CJY-35-13**

signed into law by President Ben Shelly on July 29, 2013.

Effective date July 29, 2013.

RESOLUTION OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

22nd NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - Third Year, 2013

AN ACT

RELATING TO LAW AND ORDER, HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI'; APPROVING THE AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 15 N.N.C. §§1201 THROUGH 1209; AND, AUTHORIZING THE NAVAJO TECHNICAL COLLEGE TO AMEND ITS ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

BE IT ENACTED:

Section 1. Findings

- A. The Navajo Technical College is a wholly owned non-profit corporation of the Navajo Nation to provide post-secondary vocational education; and
- B. The Board of Trustees of Navajo Technical College is responsible for the administration, operations, and development of policy as stated in the Navajo Nation Code at 15 N.N.C. \$\$1201, et seq.; and
- C. Since 2006, Navajo Technical College has increased its academic offerings and the growth envisioned for the college to provide academic excellence require that its Enabling Legislation be updated to enable the Technical College to meet the needs of its students and the Navajo Nation community as an institution of higher learning; and
- D. Navajo Technical College has developed six (6) baccalaureate degrees, the Navajo Nation's first Registered Nurse program, and several new academic and vocational, technical and career programs to put students to work in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), health and vocational, technical and career trades; and
- E. Navajo Technical College is now in the process of developing additional academic programs that will provide its students the opportunity to obtain post-graduate degrees (i.e., masters and Ph.D.); and

- F. Navajo Technical College, as a wholly owned non-profit corporation of the Navajo Nation, is responsible to ensure all research and publication activities are consistent with Navajo Nation law. Navajo Technical College (NTC) is as an institution of higher learning that seeks accreditation to award Masters and PhD degrees. Research by NTC graduate students becomes an essential component of a graduate student's curriculum working towards obtaining these degrees. Research by NTC's students adds to the prestige and standing of NTC among the academic community. NTC, thus, seeks authority to establish its own Institutional Review Board to monitor student-generated research.
 - 1. Institutional Review Boards (IRB) review biomedical and behavioral research involving human subjects. The U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare enforces the federal regulations that regulate entities receiving federal funding for research. Institutions of higher learning (e.g., universities and colleges) that conduct research are mandated to have an Institutional Review Board by federal funding sources and federal law. Many states have health agency Institutional Review Boards that monitor the research conducted by their agency. Hospitals, medical centers and any other entities that conduct research also have Institutional Review Boards.
 - 2. The U.S. Indian Health Service sponsors IRBs in all of its area offices to review research proposed for its own facilities and offers the service to tribal communities when requested. In 1995, the Navajo Nation adopted the Navajo Nation Health Research Code that included the establishment of the Navajo Nation Human Research Review Board. The Navajo Nation Health Research Review Board reviews proposed research involving Navajos and the IHS IRB is no longer the board of record for research within the Navajo Nation.
 - 3. In view of NTC's development towards a university, the Navajo Division of Health and NTC, in consultation with the Navajo Department of Justice, have come to a consensus whereby the Navajo Division of Health supports the establishment of an IRB at NTC to monitor student-generated research. However, any research reviewed pursuant to the

Public Law 93-638 agreement between the Navajo Nation and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services must be approved by the Navajo Nation Human Research Review Board.

- By authorizing NTC to establish an IRB to monitor its 4. student-generated research, the Navajo Nation Council will be encouraging Navajo graduate students to conduct the research essential to their educational development in pursuit of Post-Graduate Masters and PhD degrees. importantly, the Navajo Nation Council strengthening its own institution of higher learning to provide educational opportunities to Navajo students seeking post-graduate degrees, rather than having those students attend a non-Navajo educational institution located off-reservation with the high probability that they will choose to remain off-reservation upon graduation. Navajo Nation Council's authorization for NTC to establish an IRB will greatly assist in the prevention of the "brain drain" of educated Navajos.
- G. The Board of Trustees of Navajo Technical College has determined that it is in the best interest of Navajo Technical College to amend the Navajo Technical College Enabling Legislation, codified at 15 N.N.C. §§1201 et seq., in order to correlate the Enabling Legislation for Navajo Technical College with its development towards a university; and
- H. The Navajo Nation Council finds it is in the best interest of the Navajo Nation to amend the Navajo Technical College Enabling Legislation, codified at 15 N.N.C. §\$1201 et seq.

Section 2. Amendments to Title 15 of the Navajo Nation Code.

The Navajo Nation hereby amends the Navajo Nation Code, Title 15, as follows:

TITLE 15. LABOR

CHAPTER 13. NAVAJO TECHNICAL COLLEGE UNIVERSITY

§ 1201. Establishment; Name; Place; Duration; Seal

A. There is established by the Navajo Nation Council of the Navajo Nation, a Corporation to be known as Navajo Technical College University.

- B. The principal place of business of the Corporation shall be at Crownpoint, New Mexico. The Corporation may establish such other places of business as the Board may determine.
 - C. The duration of the Corporation shall be perpetual.
- D. The Corporation shall have a corporate seal approved by the Corporation's Board of Trustees Regents.

§ 1202. Status

- A. This Corporation is organized as a non-profit, non-membership corporation, wholly owned by the Navajo Nation, and organized exclusively for educational, charitable and governmental purposes.
- B. The Corporation is a non-profit vocational technical educational institution of higher learning of the Navajo Nation government, and is to be considered part of "The Navajo Nation" for purposes of the Navajo Sovereign Immunity Act, 1 N.N.C. § 551 et seq.

§ 1203. Purposes and Powers

The Corporation is organized as an institution of higher learning for the primary purpose of providing postsecondary and post-graduate education programs that serve both the academic and vocational/technical and academic needs of the Navajo Nation and its citizens. These purposes incorporate appropriate related educational objectives, including academic programs of instruction, on-the-job training, experiential education, student and faculty technology and scientific research programs appropriately approved by the Navajo Nation Corporation's Institutional Review Board, practicum, internships, experiential education, and other socially beneficial programs to promote the health care, adult education, economic development, <u>cultural</u> and environmental preservation and enhancement, and any other activities that strengthen the Diné people or their government, or both. The Corporation is authorized to do all things appropriate to the furtherance of these purposes, including establishing colleges, schools and

notice of all Board meetings shall be provided five days prior to the meeting date. Board members shall receive written notice of all meetings of the Board.

- D. Four members of the Board shall constitute a quorum to conduct official business. Attendance at Board meetings shall be in person except that the Board may conduct any special meeting, convened to address exigent circumstances, by conference telephone call or other communication equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can communicate with each other.
- E. The Board shall adopt its own rules for the conduct of business.
- F. The Board shall ensure that minutes of all meetings are taken and are kept on file at the Office of the President.

§ 1209. Amendments

This enabling legislation may be amended upon recommendation by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board, subject to the concurrence and the recommendation of the Education Health, Education and Human Services and Government Services Naabik'íyáti' Committees of the Navajo Nation Council. No amendment shall be effective except upon the final approval of the Navajo Nation Council.

Section 3. Amendments to the Enabling Legislation for the Navajo Technical College

The Navajo Nation hereby accepts the recommendation of the Board of Trustees of the Navajo Technical College, attached hereto as Exhibit A, to amend Title 15.

Section 4. Amendment of Articles of Incorporation

The Navajo Nation hereby authorizes the Navajo Technical University to file amended corporate Articles of Incorporation, consistent with the provisions of these statutory amendments.

Section 5. Effective Date

The amendments enacted herein shall be effective pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §221(B).

Section 6. Codification

The provisions of the 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 7. Savings Clause

Should any portion of the amendment enacted herein be determined invalid by the Navajo Nation Supreme Court, or the District Court of the Navajo Nation, without appeal to the Navajo Nation Supreme Court, those portions 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 21 in favor and 0 opposed, this 17th day of July 2013.

Mel R. Begay, Pro Tem Speaker Navajo Nation Council

Dato

Motion: Honorable Joshua Lavar Butler

Second: Honorable Edmund Yazzie

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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 day
	of <u>Jul 2 9 2013</u> 2013.
	Ben Shelly President
	Navajo Nation

2. I hereby veto the foregoing legislation, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. \$1005 (C) (11), this _____ day of ____ 2013, for the reason(s) expressed in the attached letter to the Speaker.

Ben Shelly, President Navajo Nation

Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. CJY-35-13

no related resolutions

Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. **CJY-38-13**

signed into law by President Ben Shelly on August 2, 2013.

Effective date August 2, 2013.

RESOLUTION OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

22nd NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - Third Year, 2013

AN ACT

RELATING TO LAW AND ORDER; RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT; HEALTH AND EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES; AMENDING 5 N.N.C. \$203 OF THE NAVAJO NATION CODE, THE NAVAJO BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY ACT, AND 15 N.N.C. \$604(B) OF THE NAVAJO NATION CODE, THE NAVAJO PREFERENCE IN EMPLOYMENT ACT TO FACILITATE THE NAVAJO NATION'S RECEIPT AND USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS FROM THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION FOR NAVAJO NATION AIRPORTS

BE IT ENACTED:

Section 1. Amendments to Title 5 of the Navajo Nation Code.

The Navajo Nation hereby amends the Navajo Nation Code, Title 5, § 203, as follows:

TITLE 5. COMMERCE AND TRADE
CHAPTER 3. LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
SUBCHAPTER 2. NAVAJO NATION BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY ACT

- § 203. Jurisdiction; Application; Compliance Requirements and Violations
- A. General Jurisdiction. The Navajo Nation has the inherent sovereign authority to authorize and regulate business activities of business entities within the jurisdiction of the Navajo Nation, as defined in 7 N.N.C. § 254.
- B. Application. <u>Unless otherwise provided for herein, TThis</u> Act shall apply uniformly to all public and private entities engaging in business on the Navajo Nation and to the Navajo Nation itself. This Act shall apply to all <u>Navajo Nation</u> procurement contracts exceeding fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) and on a limited basis to those <u>Navajo Nation</u> procurement contracts less than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000).

E. Federal Aviation Administration grants. Notwithstanding any other provision herein, this Act shall not apply to Navajo Nation procurement contracts or subcontracts that are to be paid with federal funds provided by the Federal Aviation Administration, whether such funds are provided via loans or grants, and whether such funds are provided on a reimbursement basis or up-front payment basis.

(Subsequent sections are to be renumbered to accommodate the amendments.)

Section 2. Amendments to Title 15 of the Navajo Nation Code.

§ 604. Navajo employment preference

- B. Specific requirements for Navajo preference:
 - 1. All employers shall include and specify a Navajo employment preference Policy statement in all job announcements and advertisements and employer policies covered by this Act.

The Navajo Nation when contracting with the federal or state governments or one of its entities shall include for Navajo preference in all phases provisions employment as provided herein. When contracting with any Indian preference agency, the term substituted for Navajo preference for federal purposes, provided that any such voluntary substitution shall not be construed as an implicit or express waiver of any provision of the Act nor a concession by the Navajo Nation that this Act is not fully applicable to the federal contract as a matter of law. Notwithstanding any other provision herein, this Act shall not apply to Navajo Nation contracts with the Federal Aviation Administration, or to Navajo Nation procurement contracts or subcontracts that are to be paid funds provided by the Federal Aviation federal

Administration, whether such funds are provided via loans or grants, and whether such funds are provided on a reimbursement basis or up-front payment basis.

Section 3. Effective Date

The Act is effective upon its approval pursuant to 2 N.N.C. \$221.

Section 4.Codification

The provisions of this ordinance 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 5. 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 19 in favor and 1 opposed, this 18th day of July 2013.

Johnny Naize, Speaker Nava o Nation Council

Date

Motion: Honorable David L. Tom

Second: Honorable Joshua Lavar Butler

ACTION BY THE NAVAJO NATION PRESIDENT:

1.	I hereby sign into law the foregoing	3
	legislation, pursuant to 2 N.N.C.	
	§ 1005 (C) (10), on this day	Y
	of AUG 0 2 2013 2013.	
	2 100	
	fan Theller	
	Ben Shelly, President	_
	Navajo Nation	

2. I hereby veto the foregoing legislation, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. \$1005 (C) (11), this _____ day of _____ 2013, for the reason(s) expressed in the attached letter to the Speaker.

Ben Shelly, President Navajo Nation

Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. CJY-38-13

no resolutions that recommended amendments

Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. **C0-48-14**

signed into law by President Ben Shelly on November 17, 2014.

Effective date January 1, 2015.

RESOLUTION OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

22nd NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - Fourth Year, 2014

AN ACT

RELATING TO LAW AND ORDER, HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES, NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' AND NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; AMENDING NAVAJO PREFERENCE IN EMPLOYMENT ACT AT 15 N.N.C. §§ 605, 610 AND 612; ENACTING NEW SECTION 614; AND REDESIGNATING SECTIONS 615 THROUGH 620

BE IT ENACTED:

Section 1. Findings and Purposes

- A. Pursuant to 15 N.N.C. § 602, the purposes of the *Navajo Preference in Employment Act* include providing training and employment opportunities for Navajos and promoting economic development within the Navajo Nation.
- B. It is necessary to amend the Navajo Preference in Employment Act generally for purposes of ensuring efficiency and economy.

Section 2. Amending Navajo Preference in Employment Act

The Navajo Nation hereby amends the Navajo Preference in Employment Act as follows:

* * * *

§ 605. Reports

Except as otherwise provided herein, Aall employers doing business or engaged in any project or enterprise within the territorial jurisdiction of the Navajo Nation or pursuant to a contract with the Navajo Nation shall submit employment information and reports as required to ONLR. Such reports, in a form acceptable to ONLR, shall include all information necessary and appropriate to determine compliance with the provisions of this Act. All reports shall be filed with ONLR not later than 10 business days after the end of each calendar quarter, provided that ONLR shall have the right to require filing of reports on a weekly or monthly schedule with respect to part-time or full-time temporary employment.

§ 610. Monitoring and enforcement

- A. Responsible Agency. Except as otherwise provided herein, Geompliance with the Act shall be monitored and enforced by ONLR.
- B. Charges.
 - 1. Charging Party. Except as otherwise provided herein, Aany Navajo may file a charge ("Individual Charge") claiming a violation of his or her rights under the Act. ONLR, on its own initiative, may file a charge ("ONLR Charge") claiming a violation of rights under the Act held by identified Navajos or a class of Navajos, including a claim that respondent is engaging in a pattern of conduct or practice in violation of rights guaranteed by the Act. An Individual Charge and ONLR Charge are collectively referred to herein as a "Charge".

- J. Initiation of Commission Proceedings. Proceedings before the Commission shall be initiated upon the filing of a written complaint by a petitioner with the Commission.
- 1. Complaints shall satisfy each of the following conditions:
- a. The petitioner is authorized to file the Complaint under the terms and conditions prescribed by this Section Act;

§ 612. Remedies and sanctions

C. The person or party in whose favor a Commission's decision providing for remedial action is entered shall have the right to seek legal and/or equitable relief in the District Courts of the Navajo Nation to enforce the remedial action; provided that the Commission itself shall have the right to seek legal and/or equitable relief in the District Courts of the Navajo Nation to enforce civil fines or sanctions imposed by the Commission against a person or party. In both instances the Attorney

General of the Navajo Nation shall have an unconditional right to intervene on behalf of the Navajo Nation. Any attempted enforcement of a Commission order or decision directing payment of money by the Navajo Nation or any of its governmental entities shall, with respect to the extent of any liability be governed by the Navajo Sovereign Immunity Act, 1 N.N.C. § 551 et seg., as amended.

§ 614. Grievance Procedure For Navajo Nation Government Employees

- A. Any employee of the Navajo Nation Executive or Legislative Branch or a non-Local Governance Act Certified Chapter, or applicant for employment with the Navajo Nation Executive or Legislative Branch or non-Local Governance Act Certified Chapter, who alleges a violation of this Act shall file a grievance as provided by the Navajo Nation Personnel Policies Manual. The hearing officer may award the employee or applicant any remedy authorized by Section 612(A) of this Act.
- B. Any employee of the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch or an applicant for employment with the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch who alleges a violation of the Act shall file a grievance as provided by the Judicial Branch Employee Policies & Procedures. The hearing board may award the employee or applicant any remedy authorized by Section 612(A) of this Act.
- C. Any party to the grievance may appeal a final decision of the hearing officer or hearing board to the Navajo Nation Supreme Court within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of the decision. The employee or applicant shall file a notice of appeal with the Navajo Nation Supreme Court and the hearing officer or hearing board.
- D. Transcripts and record for appeals.
 - 1. If considered necessary, the party appealing a decision shall file a transcript of the proceeding with the Navajo Nation Supreme Court within thirty (30) calendar days from the filing of the notice of appeal.

- 2. If a transcript is considered unnecessary, within ten (10) calendar days of the filing of the notice of appeal, the party appealing a decision shall give notice to the Navajo Nation Supreme Court and the appellee that the appellant will not file a transcript
- 3. If the appellant fails to file a transcript or notice that the appellant will not file a transcript within the required time, the Navajo Nation Supreme Court shall dismiss the appeal.
- 4. The hearing officer or hearing board shall submit the record of the proceeding within ten (10) calendar days of the filing of the notice of appeal. Failure of the hearing officer or hearing board to file the record within that time period shall not be grounds for dismissal of the appeal.
- E. The Navajo Nation Supreme Court shall review and decide the appeal within thirty (30) days of the filing of the transcript or the notice that appellant will not file a transcript. If a decision within that time is not feasible, at the request of a party or by its own order, the Navajo Nation Supreme Court may extend that time up to sixty (60) days. The Navajo Nation Supreme Court shall create expedited rules of appellate procedure to decide the appeal within the required time period.

F. Remedies; enforcement of awards.

- 1. If the employee or applicant prevails on his or her grievance, and the Navajo Nation program does not appeal the decision, the program and Navajo Nation Controller shall pay the monetary remedies awarded within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the final decision of the hearing officer or board.
- 2. If the hearing officer or board directs reinstatement of the employee to his or her position or directs the hiring of the applicant for employment, and the Navajo Nation program does not appeal the decision, the program shall initiate the processing of all documentation necessary to reinstate the employee or hire the applicant within ten (10) calendar days of the decision.
- 3. The filing of an appeal by the Navajo Nation program under Subsection (C) shall automatically stay the payment of monetary remedies or the remedies of reinstatement or hire pending the decision by the Navajo Nation Supreme Court.

However, any monetary remedy, such as back-pay, will continue to accrue until the decision is issued, unless otherwise ordered by the Supreme Court. If the employee or applicant prevails on appeal, the Navajo Nation program will fulfill the award within the time periods set out in Subsections (1) and (2), calculated from the date of receipt of the Navajo Nation Supreme Court's decision.

- 4. If the Navajo Nation program fails to perform its obligations within the time periods in Subsections (1) through (3), the employee or applicant may file an action under Section 554(G) of the Navajo Sovereign Immunity Act to enforce the award. If the employee or applicant prevails in that action, he or she may receive the original award of the hearing officer or board and any additional relief authorized by 1 N.N.C. § 554(G)(1).
- G. The remedies set forth in this Section are the exclusive remedies for employees of or applicants for employment with the Navajo Nation Executive, Legislative, and Judicial Branches and non-Local Governance Certified Chapters for violations of the Act. ONLR and the Commission shall have no jurisdiction over alleged violations of the Act by the Navajo Nation Executive, Legislative or Judicial Branch or non-Local Governance Certified Chapters.
- § 614 615 . Non-Navajo spouses

§ 615 616. Polygraph test

§ 616 617. Rules and regulations

§ 617 618. Prior inconsistent law repealed

§ 619 619. Effective date and amendment of the Act

§ 619 620. Severability of the Act

Section 3. Effective date

The amendments enacted herein shall be effective on January 1, 2015, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §221.

Section 4. Codification

The provisions of these amendments 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 5. Savings Clause

Should any provision of these amendments 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 provisions which are not determined invalid shall remain the law of the 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 13 in favor and 0 opposed, this 23rd day of October 2014.

LoRenzo Bates, Pro Tem Speaker Navajo Nation Council

*Nov. 7. 2014*Date

Motion: Honorable Russell Begaye Second: Honorable Lorenzo Curley

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	day
	of NOV 17 2014 2014.	
	B Milla	
	Ben Shelly, President	
	Navajo	

2. I hereby veto the foregoing legislation, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. \$1005 (C)(11), this _____ day of _____ 2014, for the reason(s) expressed in the attached letter to the Speaker.

Ben Shelly, President Navajo Nation

Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. C0-48-14

no related resolutions