

## **SUMMARY OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

Tracking No. 0086-24

DATE: April 19, 2024

**RE: AN ACTION RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE;  
APPROVING THE PLAN OF OPERATION FOR THE LEGISLATIVE  
BRANCH PROTECTION SERVICES PROGRAM UNDER THE OFFICE OF  
THE SPEAKER**

### **PURPOSE OF THIS LEGISLATION:**

to approve the Plan of Operation for the “Legislative Services Protection Services Section” under the Office of the Speaker,” thereby establishing this new program for the Legislative Branch.

### **FINAL AUTHORITY and VOTE REQUIREMENT:**

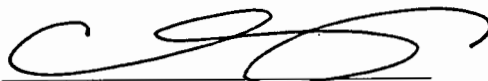
The Naabik'íyáti' Committee has final authority. A simple majority vote of the Committee is required to approve the resolution.

OLC No. 24-240-1

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: A Johnson  
Website Posting Time/Date: 5:51pm; 04-19-24  
Posting End Date: 04-24-24  
Eligible for Action: 04-25-24

1 PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION  
2 25<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - Second Year, 2024

3 Introduced by:

4 

5 Primary Sponsor

6 Tracking No. 0086-24

7 

8 AN ACTION

9 RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; APPROVING THE  
10 PLAN OF OPERATION FOR THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH PROTECTION  
11 SERVICES PROGRAM UNDER THE OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER  
12

13 BE IT ENACTED:

14 SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

15 The Naabik'iyáti' Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council that  
16 oversees the operations of the Office of Legislative Services and other offices, programs,  
17 commission, boards, or task forces under the Legislative Branch of the Navajo Nation  
18 government, and approves and amends plans of operation thereto.  
19

20 SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

21 A. The Naabik'iyáti' Committee approved the Plan of Operation for the Office of the Speaker  
22 in August 2023 in Resolution No. NABIAU-25-23. **EXHIBIT 1.**

23 B. Pursuant to Section IV(4) of the Plan of Operation for the Office of the Speaker, the Office  
24 of the Speaker as the authority to provide for security protection for the Legislative Branch.  
25 **EXHIBIT 1**, Sub-Exhibit A, at p. 2.

26 C. The Office of the Speaker now wishes to establish a security services program under the  
27 Office of the Speaker, for the protection of Navajo Nation Council delegates, employees of  
28

1 the Office of the Speaker, and other legislative branch personnel.

2 D. The Office of the Speaker has prepared a Plan of Operation for the “Legislative Services  
3 Protection Services Section” under the Office of the Speaker. The proposed Plan of  
4 Operation is attached hereto as **EXHIBIT 2**.

5 E. The Naabik’íyáti’ Committee has determined that it is in the best interest of the Navajo  
6 Nation to approve the Plan of Operation for the “Legislative Services Protection Services  
7 Section” under the Office of the Speaker, as shown in the attached **EXHIBIT 2**.

8  
9 **SECTION THREE. APPROVAL OF PLAN OF OPERATION**

10 The Naabik’íyáti’ Committee hereby approves the Plan of Operation for the “Legislative  
11 Services Protection Services Section” under the Office of the Speaker, as shown in the attached  
12 **EXHIBIT 2**.

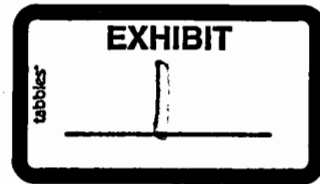
13  
14 **SECTION FOUR. EFFECTIVE DATE**

15 This Action shall become effective in accordance with 2 N.N.C. §701(A)(2) and 2 N.N.C.  
16 §221(C).

17  
18 **SECTION FIVE. SAVING CLAUSE**

19 If any provision of this Action is determined invalid by the Supreme Court of the Navajo  
20 Nation, or by a Navajo Nation District Court without appeal to the Navajo Nation Supreme  
21 Court, the remainder of this Action shall be the law of the Navajo Nation.

RESOLUTION OF THE  
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' STANDING COMMITTEE  
25<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- First Year, 2023



AN ACTION RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; APPROVING THE PLAN OF OPERATION FOR THE NAVAJO NATION OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Naabik'iyáti' Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council that serves as the oversight committee for the Office of Legislative Services and other offices, programs, commissions, boards or task forces under the Legislative Branch of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 701(A) (5).

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- A. The Office of the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council (Office of the Speaker) is established under the Legislative Branch in 2 N.N.C. § 281(A). The Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council is authorized by law to direct and supervise the personnel and programs under the Legislative Branch. 2 N.N.C. § 285(B) (2).
- B. The purpose of this legislation is to approve a Plan of Operation for the Office of the Speaker attached as Exhibit A.
- C. Pursuant to the Plan of Operation for the Office of the Speaker attached as Exhibit A, the Office of the Speaker purposes are:
1. Provide support and assistance to the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council in carrying out the Speaker's duties.
  2. Ensure the efficient administration and support of daily business and activities of the Navajo Nation Council and its Standing Committees.
  3. Ensure the efficient operation of the programs under the Legislative Branch.

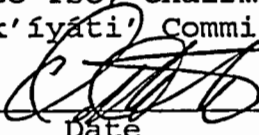
SECTION THREE. APPROVING THE PLAN OF OPERATION OF THE NAVAJO NATION OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

The Naabik'iyáti' Committee hereby approves the Plan of Operation for the Navajo Nation Office of the Speaker attached as Exhibit A.

CERTIFICATION

I, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Naabik'iyáti' Committee of the 25<sup>th</sup> 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 16 in Favor, and 00 Opposed, on this 24<sup>th</sup> day of August 2023.

Honorable Otto Tso, Chairman Pro Tem  
Naabik'iyáti' Committee

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date

08/29/23

Motion: Honorable Rickie Nez  
Second: Honorable Shaandiin Parrish

Chairman Pro Tem Otto Tso not voting



## Navajo Nation Office of the Speaker

### Plan of Operation

#### I. ESTABLISHMENT

The Navajo Nation Office of the Speaker is established within the Legislative Branch, Navajo Nation Government at 2 N.N.C. § 281. The Office of the Speaker shall have such support personnel as may be budgeted for. 2 N.N.C. § 281 (C). The Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council has the power and authority to direct and supervise the personnel and programs under the Legislative Branch. 2 N.N.C. §285 (B) (2).

#### II. PURPOSE

The Office of the Speaker shall have the power to perform any and all acts necessary to fulfill the following purposes:

1. Provide support and assistance to the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council in carrying out the Speaker's duties.
2. Ensure the efficient administration and support of daily business and activities of the Navajo Nation Council and its Standing Committees.
3. Ensure the efficient operation of the programs under the Legislative Branch.

#### III. STAFFING & ORGANIZATION

1. The Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council shall appoint assistants, administrators, clerical staff and other personnel as may be budgeted for.
2. There is hereby established the position of Chief of Staff of the Navajo Nation Office of the Speaker.
3. The Chief of Staff shall be appointed by the Speaker of the Navajo Nation and shall serve at the pleasure of the Speaker of the Navajo Nation. The Chief of Staff shall coordinate with the Navajo Nation Council and the Legislative Branch programs and commissions to promote effective operations.
4. Positions within the Office of the Speaker shall be employed as regular status employees and political-at-will employees in accordance with the Navajo Nation Personnel Policies Manual. All personnel of the Office of the Speaker shall be employed and compensated in accordance with the applicable Navajo Nation Personnel Policies Manual.

5. The Organizational Chart for the Office of the Speaker is included as Attachment "A."

#### IV. RESPONSIBILITIES AND AUTHORITIES

The responsibilities and authorities of the Navajo Nation Office of the Speaker shall include:

1. Manage and administer the overall direction of the Office of the Speaker and assist the Legislative Branch programs;
2. Develop internal policies and procedures related to the overall duties of the Office of the Speaker;
3. Maintain communication and coordination with the Navajo Nation Council, its Standing Committees and Federal, State, and Local governments;
4. Coordinate and develop policies and strategies to implement the Office of the Speaker objectives including financial management, human resources management, information technology, and security protection; and
5. Carry out other responsibilities as assigned by the Speaker of the Navajo Nation.

#### V. LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT

The Navajo Nation Office of the Speaker shall operate under the legislative oversight of the Navajo Nation Naabik'iyati Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.

#### VI. AMENDMENTS

This plan of operation may be amended as needed by the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council through the Naabik'iyati Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.

**NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER  
LEGISLATIVE PROTECTION SERVICES SECTION  
Plan of Operation**



**I. ESTABLISHMENT**

There is hereby established the Legislative Protection Services Section within the Office of the Speaker of the Navajo Nation. The Supervisor of the Legislative Protection Services Section shall be under the direct supervision of the Chief of Staff of the Office of the Speaker of the Navajo Nation.

**II. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES**

The purpose of the Legislative Protection Service Section is to ensure the health, welfare and safety of the Speaker of the Navajo Nation, the Navajo Nation Council, and visiting dignitaries is maintained. This objective is subject to the availability of funds.

**III. STAFFING AND ORGANIZATION**

- A. All personnel of the Legislative Protection Service Section shall be employed and compensated in accordance with the Navajo Nation Personnel Policies Manual. The Supervisor of the Legislative Protection Service Section shall be appointed by the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council, in accordance with the Navajo Nation Personnel Policy Manual.
- B. The Legislative Protection Service Section shall include a Supervisor who possesses a current Arizona, New Mexico, or Utah Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) certification and Special Law Enforcement Commission (SLEC) training and/or certification, The LPS shall be sufficiently staffed to accomplish the purpose and objectives of the program.
- C. The Supervisor shall be authorized to make decisions regarding additional professional, technical and clinical positions as needed to carry out the organizational purpose and objectives as stated herein subject to the availability of funds. Additional positions may be requested and acquired through the Navajo Nation budget process.

**IV. RESPONSIBILITIES & AUTHORITY**

- A. The responsibilities of the Legislative Protection Services Section shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - 1. To ensure the health, welfare and safety of the Speaker of the Navajo Nation, the Navajo Nation Council, and visiting dignitaries is maintained.



2. To conduct investigations and assess potential security threats in advance at designated locations where the Speaker and/or the Navajo Nation Council will be in attendance, in order to provide effective and efficient security protection services.
  3. To exercise control and authority over legislative security protection services, including arrangements for transportation and other assignments, as requested by the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council.
  4. To maintain security and medical equipment necessary to provide effective and efficient security protection services.
  5. To ensure the Legislative Branch campus is appropriately and effectively protected from security threats.
- B. The responsibilities of the Supervisor of the Legislative Protection Services Section shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
1. To ensure that duties and responsibilities are performed with professionalism, while ensuring integrity and confidentiality of the Legislative Protection Services Section.
  2. To coordinate and oversee the daily operations of the Legislative Protection Service Section including, but not limited to, coordinating the assignment of a Sergeant at Arms per 2 N.N.C. § 168.
  3. To supervise, control and administer the Legislative Protection Services Section in compliance with all applicable Navajo Nation Laws, rules and regulations.
  4. To ensure that all Legislative Protection Services staff are provided with the necessary training and education to effectively and efficiently carry out LPS duties and responsibilities. To include but not limited to obtaining and Arizona, New Mexico, or Utah Emergency Medical Responder/Technician training and/or certification.
  5. To coordinate security protection services and agreements between the LPS program and other law enforcement agencies.
  6. To develop an annual budget for the Legislative Protection Services Section.
  7. To formulate policies and procedures governing executive security protection services for the Legislative Branch.
  8. To ensure that accurate daily report logs, emergency reports and all records are maintained regarding executive security protection services.
  9. To conduct annual evaluations of LPS staff to determine program effectiveness and to make recommendations for staff training and skills development, when appropriate, in order to provide effective and efficient security protection services.

10. To report directly to the Office of the Speaker Chief of Staff, on a regular basis, regarding all activities of the Legislative Protection Services.

11. To negotiate contracts, grants and agreements on behalf of the Legislative Protection Services Section, in compliance with all Navajo Nation laws, rules and regulations.

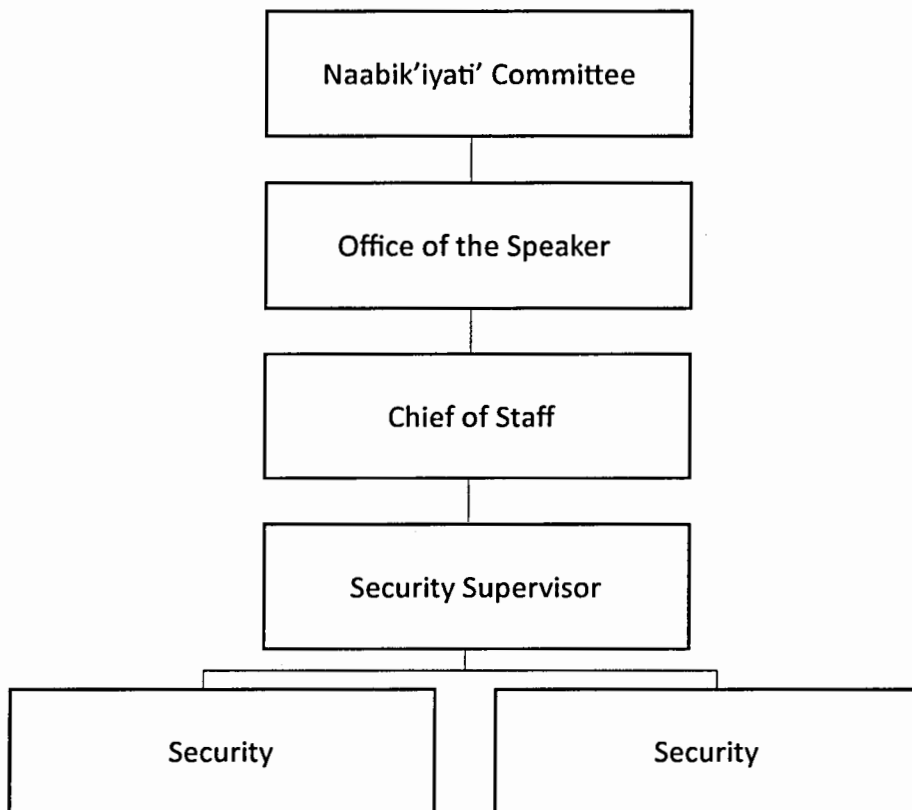
**V. LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT**

The Legislative Protection Services Section within the Office of the Speaker, shall operate under the legislative oversight of the Naabik'iyati' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 701 (A)(5).

**VI. AMENDMENTS**

This Plan of Operation may be amended by Resolution of the Naabik'iyati' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.


**VII. ORGANIZATION CHART**





## MEMORANDUM

To : Hon. Crystalyne Curley, Speaker  
25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council

From:   
Luralene D. Tapahe, Principal Advocate  
Office of Legislative Counsel

Date: April 19, 2024

Subject: **AN ACTION RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; APPROVING  
THE PLAN OF OPERATION FOR THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH PROTECTION  
SERVICES PROGRAM UNDER THE OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER**

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Pursuant to your request, the Office of Legislative Counsel has prepared the above-described proposed legislation. OLC finds this draft to be legally sufficient, but as with any action of the Navajo Nation government, it can be challenged under applicable laws.

This legislation will be assigned to the appropriate committees, in accordance with the Speaker's authority under Title 2 of the Navajo Nation Code.

Please review this legislation and all of its exhibits, to make sure that everything is satisfactory. You should contact me immediately if any edits are needed, or if you have any questions or other concerns. I can be reached at phone no. (928)871-7166 or by email at: [LuraleneTapahe@navajo-nsn.gov](mailto:LuraleneTapahe@navajo-nsn.gov)

THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: \_0086-24\_

SPONSOR: Crystalvne Curley

**TITLE: An Action Relating to Naabik'iváti' Committee; Approving the Plan of Operation for the Legislative Branch Protection Services Program Under the Office of the Speaker**

***Date posted:*** April 19, 2024 at 5:51PM

**Digital comments may be e-mailed to [comments@navajo-nsn.gov](mailto:comments@navajo-nsn.gov)**

**Written comments may be mailed to:**

**Executive Director  
Office of Legislative Services  
P.O. Box 3390  
Window Rock, AZ 86515  
(928) 871-7586**

**Comments may be made in the form of chapter resolutions, letters, position papers, etc. Please include your name, position title, address for written comments; a valid e-mail address is required. Anonymous comments will not be included in the Legislation packet.**

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**THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW SUMMARY**

**LEGISLATION NO.: 0086-24**

**SPONSOR: Honorable Crystalyne Curley**

**TITLE: An Action Relating to Naabik'iyáti' Committee; Approving the Plan of Operation for the Legislative Branch Protection Services Program Under the Office of the Speaker**

**Posted: April 19, 2024 at 5:51 PM**

**5 DAY Comment Period Ended: April 24, 2024**

**Digital Comments received:**

|                                 |             |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Comments Supporting</b>      | <i>None</i> |
| <b>Comments Opposing</b>        | <i>None</i> |
| <b>Comments/Recommendations</b> | <i>None</i> |



**Legislative Secretary II  
Office of Legislative Services**

**April 25, 2024; 8:15 AM**

**Date/Time**