

**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 10/04/24 3:07pm  
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 25<sup>th</sup> 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  
14

15 BE IT ENACTED:

16  
17 SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

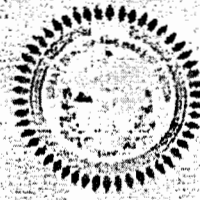
- 18 A. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §  
19 102(A).
- 20 B. A proposed resolution that requires final action by the Navajo Nation Council shall be  
21 assigned to the Naabik'iyáti' Committee. 2 N.N.C. §164(A)(9).
- 22 D. Any enrolled member of the Navajo 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.

29  
30 SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- 1 A. Colen Nicklis Atene was previously enrolled with the Navajo Nation, “being of  $\frac{3}{4}$   
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.

17  
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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THE NAVAJO NATION

MILTON BLUEHOUSE, SR.  
PRESIDENT

FRANK CHEE WOLFE, SR.  
VICE PRESIDENT

UNACCEPTABLE IF ALTERED

CERTIFICATE OF NAVAJO INDIAN BLOOD

PART A (To be used if applicant is enrolled)

WESTERN NAVAJO  
AGENCY

December 23, 1998

I certify that Colen Nicklis Atene is listed on the Navajo Census roll,  
dated January 01, 1940 which is an official record of this office as being of 3/4 degree  
Navajo Indian blood, with Roll Number            date of birth           

RECORDED: December 23, 1998

*Frank Chee Wolfe, Sr.*  
VICE PRESIDENT

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS DOCUMENT  
HAS BEEN TAKEN FROM THE OFFICIAL TRIBAL ROLL OF THE NAVAJO TRIBE.

WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY - TRIBAL ENROLLMENT SERVICES  
THE NAVAJO NATION • P.O. BOX 1510 • TUCUCCI, ARIZONA 86545



# **DUCKWATER SHOSHONE TRIBE**

511 Duckwater Falls Road, P.O. Box 140068

Duckwater, Nevada 89314

(775) 863-0227 Phone

(775) 863-0301 Fax

## **RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE DUCKWATER SHOSHONE TRIBE**

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-D-10**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE DUCKWATER TRIBAL COUNCIL**, the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe is organized under the provisions of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, as amended, to exercise certain rights of home rule and be responsible for the general welfare of its membership; and

**WHEREAS**, the Constitution of the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe, Article II - Membership, Section 1, (a) states "*All persons of Shoshone Indian blood whose names appear on the Carson Agency census roll of the Duckwater Shoshone Indians dated January 1, 1941, or on the Commissioner's memorandums of registration dated November 28, 1940, or February 20, 1950, or April 26, 1966.*", and Section 1 (b) states, "*All persons of at least one-quarter (1/4) degree Shoshone Indian blood born to a member who is a descendant of the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe and who make application for enrollment in accordance with the enrollment ordinance adopted under Article II, Section 3 of this Constitution.*"; and

**WHEREAS**, the Duckwater Tribal Enrollment Committee determined that in Ordinance for Enrollment, Section 305: Grounds for Disenrollment: B. Failure to meet prescribed enrollment requirements and erroneously enrolled with the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe by the adoption of Resolution No. 03-D-30; and

**WHEREAS**, the Duckwater Tribal Enrollment Committee exercised their rights and duty by submitting a recommendation to the Duckwater Tribal Council for action to disenroll Colen N. Atene, DOB -- [redacted] (Enrollment No. [redacted]) as a member of the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe; and

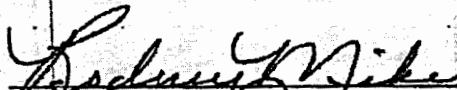
**WHEREAS**, any and all benefits or privileges bestowed on Colen N. Atene as a member of the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe are herein revoked as Mr. Atene is no longer eligible to receive such benefits and privileges; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Duckwater Tribal Council has determined that on recommendation of the Duckwater Tribal Enrollment Committee the Tribal Council has disenrolled Colen N. Atene as a member of the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe and revoked any and all benefits and privileges he enjoyed as a member of the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution 2021-D-10 shall supersede any and all prior Resolutions and action regarding the enrollment issues for Colen N. Atene and Resolution No. 03-D-30 is herein rescinded.

**C-E-R-T-I-F-I-C-A-T-I-O-N**

I, the undersigned, as Chairman of the Duckwater Shoshone Tribal Council do hereby certify, that the Duckwater Tribal Council is composed of 5 members of whom 3, constituting a quorum was present at a meeting duly held Council meeting on the 14th day of April, 2021, and that forgoing resolution was duly adopted and approved by an affirmative vote of 3 FOR; 0 AGAINST; and 0 ABSENTIONS; pursuant to the authority contained under Article VI, Section I of the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe's Constitution and By-Laws as approved November 28, 1940, as amended.

  
Rodney Mike, Tribal Chairman  
DUCKWATER SHOSHONE TRIBE

  
Lile Ann Pete, Secretary

Resolution No. 2021-D-10



OLJATO CHAPTER/ADMINISTRATION  
 PO BOX 360455  
 MONUMENT VALLEY, UTAH 84536  
 Email: [oljato@navajochapters.org](mailto:oljato@navajochapters.org)  
 Phone: 435-727-5850/Fax: 5852

Herman Daniels, Council Delegate  
 Willis Begay, President  
 Jean Holiday, Vice-President  
 Marietta Bedonie, Secretary/Treasurer  
 Benedict Daniels, Grazing Committee Member



**RESOLUTION OF THE OLJATO CHAPTER**

**RESOLUTION NO.: OLJ09-02-2021-NB2**

**SUPPORTING RESOLUTION OF THE OLJATO CHAPTER FOR THE REINSTATEMENT OF COLEN N. ATENE AS A MEMBER OF THE NAVAJO NATION.**

**WHEREAS;**

1. Pursuant to N.N.C., § 4001 (D) and 4028 (A)(B), the Oljato Chapter is established and certified a local government entity of the Navajo Nation vested with the authority to review all matters affecting the Chapter and submit appropriate recommendations to the Navajo Nation government or other local agencies by resolution; and
2. The Oljato Chapter recognizes that under the laws of the Navajo Nation, any enrolled member of the Navajo Nation may renounce [his] membership by written petition to the President of the Navajo Nation requesting that his name be stricken from the Navajo Nation roll, 1 N.N.C. §705.
3. The Navajo Nation in addition states, "[no] person, otherwise eligible for membership in the Navajo Nation, may enroll as a member of the Navajo Nation, who, at the same time, is not enrolled with another Indian tribe, 1 N.N.C. §703.
4. The Oljato Chapter also recognizes that renounced members may be reinstated by the Navajo Nation only by the vote of majority of the Navajo Nation Council, 1 Navajo Nation Code § 705.
5. The Navajo Nation Office of Vital Records has issued a Certificate of Indian Blood dated December 23, 1998, attached, confirming Colen N. Atene was enrolled with the Navajo Nation on December 23, 1998 and provide Navajo Nation Census Number. See attachment.
6. The Navajo Nation Office of Vital Records has further confirmed Colen N. Atene is three-fourth (3/4) degree Navajo blood and therefore, is eligible for re-enrollment as a member with the Navajo Nation, 1 N.N.C. § 701 (B).
7. The Duckwater Shoshone Tribe has confirmed Colen N. Atene formally relinquished his Duckwater Shoshone Tribe membership on April 14, 2021. See attachment, The Duckwater Shoshone Tribal Resolution No.: 2021-D-10.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The Oljato Chapter supports the request to reinstate, or otherwise re-enroll, Colen N. Atene as a member of the Navajo Nation. By this action of the Oljato Chapter and pursuant to the laws of the Navajo Nation, shall be entitled to all rights, benefits and privileges associated with membership with the Navajo Nation.

**CERTIFICATION**

We hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Oljato Chapter at a Regular duly called meeting at Oljato, Navajo Nation, Utah at which a quorum was present and that same was passed by a vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstained, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of September 2021.

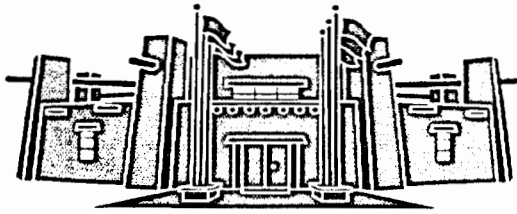
1<sup>st</sup> Motion: Jean Holiday

2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Marietta Bedonie

Willis Begay  
 Willis Begay, Oljato Chapter President

Jean Holiday  
 Jean Holiday, Oljato Chapter Vice-President

Marietta Bedonie  
 Marietta Bedonie, Oljato Chapter Secretary/Treasurer



## MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Herman Daniels, Jr.  
Navajo Nation Council Delegate  
Tsah Bii Kin, Navajo Mountain, Shonto, Oljato Chapters

FROM: Mariana Kahn  
Mariana Kahn, Acting Chief Legislative Counsel  
Office of Legislative Counsel

DATE: October 3, 2024

SUBJECT: **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**

I have prepared the above-referenced proposed resolution and associated legislative summary sheet pursuant to your request for legislative drafting. Please ensure that this particular resolution request is precisely what you want.

Based on existing law and review of documents submitted, the resolution as drafted is legally sufficient. As with any action of government however, it can be subject to review by the courts in the event of proper challenge. The Office of Legislative Counsel confirms the appropriate standing committee(s) based on the standing committees' powers outlined in 2 N.N.C. §§301, 401, 501, 601 and 701. Nevertheless, "the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council shall introduce [the proposed resolution] into the legislative process by assigning it to the respective oversight committee(s) of the Navajo Nation Council having authority over the matters for proper consideration." 2 N.N.C. §164(A)(5).



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'iyáti' Committee and the Navajo Nation Council; Approving the Reinstatement of Colen Nicklis Atene as a Member of the Navajo Nation

*Date posted:* October 04, 2024 at 3:07 PM

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.

**Please note:** This digital copy is being provided for the benefit of the Navajo Nation chapters and public use. Any political use is prohibited. All written comments received become the property of the Navajo Nation and will be forwarded to the assigned Navajo Nation Council standing committee(s) and/or the Navajo Nation Council for review. Any tampering with public records are punishable by Navajo Nation law pursuant to 17 N.N.C. §374 *et. seq.*

THE NAVAJO NATION  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH  
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LEGISLATION NO.: 0224-24

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Posted: October 04, 2024 at 3:07 PM

5 DAY Comment Period Ended: October 09, 2024

Digital Comments received:

Comments Supporting	<i>None</i>
Comments Opposing	<i>None</i>
Comments/Recommendations	<i>None</i>



Legislative Secretary II  
Office of Legislative Services

October 10, 2024; 8:01 AM

Date/Time

**25<sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL  
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE REPORT  
Second Year 2024**

The **NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE** to whom has been assigned:

**NAVAJO LEGISLATIVE BILL # 0224-24**

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

*Sponsored by: Honorable Herman M. Daniels, Jr.*

Has had it under consideration and reports the same that the legislation **WAS PASSED  
AND REFERRED TO THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL.**

Respectfully Submitted,



*Honorable Crystalyne Curley, Chairwoman  
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE*

**10 October 2024**

**MAIN MOTION**

*Motioned by: Honorable Brenda Jesus*

*Seconded by: Honorable Shaandiin Parrish*

*Vote: 16 in Favor, 00 Opposed (Chairwoman Curley Not Voting)*

**NAVAJO NATION**

483

10/10/2024

Naa'bik'iyati' Committee Regular Meeting

11:07:14 AM

<b>Amd# to Amd#</b>	<b>New Business: Item A. (MAIN)</b>	<b>PASSED</b>
MOT Jesus, B	CONSENT AGENDA - #0219-24;	
SEC Parrish, S	#0224-24; #0225-24; #0226-24	

**Yeas : 16**

**Nays : 0**

**Excused : 1**

**Not Voting : 5**

**Yea : 16**

Arviso, S	Crotty, A	Johnson, C	Slater, C
Begay, H	Daniels, H	Nez, A	Tolth, G
Begay, N	James, V	Nez, R	Yanito, C
Charles-Newton, E	Jesus, B	Parrish, S	Yazzie, L

**Nay : 0**

**Excused : 1**

Claw, S

**Not Voting : 5**

Notah, N	Simpson, D	Tso, O	Yazzie, C
Simonson, G			

**Presiding Speaker: Curley, C**