



23RD NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

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Navajo Nation Council approves amendments to the fiscal year 2019 Comprehensive Budget

WINDOW ROCK – The 23rd Navajo Nation Council convened in a special session on Tuesday and approved Legislation No. 0345-18, which seeks to amend the Navajo Nation’s fiscal year 2019 Comprehensive Budget. The Council resolution will be subject to consideration by the President.

On Sept. 4, the Navajo Nation Council unanimously adopted the fiscal year 2019 Comprehensive Budget through Resolution CS-68-18, which later became subject to a total of 31 line item vetoes issued by President Russell Begaye totaling \$7,135,449.

Legislation sponsored Council Delegate Seth Damon (Bááhááí, Chichiltah, Manuelito, Tsé Lichíí, Rock Springs, Tsayatoh) explained that the legislation would restore \$3,272,445 for the executive branch, \$3,058,049 for the legislative branch, and \$304,955 for the judicial branch. An additional \$500,000 is also included for the Nation’s contingency fund, which is designated to assist with future budget shortfalls.

During Tuesday’s session, the Council also approved one amendment proposed by Council Delegate Olin Kieyoomia (Coyote Canyon, Mexican Springs, Naschitti, Tohatchi, Bahast’á’a’) to re-designate approximately \$12,000 for the Tohatchi Chapter from its personnel fund to the chapter’s “non-capital infrastructure” account to assist with house wiring for community members. The amendment was approved by a vote of 16-3.

The bill was also considered by the Naabik’iyátí’ Committee last Thursday, which issued a “do pass” recommendation by a vote of 12-0 along with one amendment to include a carryover amount of \$217,567 for the Navajo Election Administration for costs associated with the upcoming general election on Nov. 6.

During the Naabik’iyátí’ Committee meeting, Office of the President and Vice President staff member Arbin Mitchell indicated that President Russell Begaye is agreeable to the legislation.

The Council voted 19-1 to approve the legislation. The President will have 10 calendar days to consider the resolution once it is delivered to the Office of the President and Vice President.

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