



The 21st Navajo Nation Council

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Government Services Committee passes pieces of legislation to remove Attorney General Denetsosie, Deputy Attorney General Tsosie

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – In a close vote of 3-2, the Government Services Committee passed two pieces of legislation calling for the removal of Navajo Nation Attorney General Louise Denetsosie and Navajo Nation Deputy Attorney General Harrison Tsosie, who serve at the pleasure of the Navajo Nation Council.

Honorable Kee Yazzie Mann, a member of the Public Safety Committee, said the Navajo Nation Council expresses its displeasure with the continued employment of Attorney General Denetsosie and Deputy Attorney General Tsosie. Mr. Yazzie Mann is the sponsor of the both pieces of legislation.

“Pursuant to Title 2 of the Navajo Nation Code, the Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation,” said Yazzie Mann. “According to provisions in Title 2, the attorney general and deputy attorney general serve at the pleasure of the Council, and if the attorney general and deputy attorney general are not performing up to standards then they are subject to removal.”

As outlined in the Navajo Nation Code, the Navajo Nation Council is exercising its authority by upholding public trust of being a transparent branch of government and protecting Diné culture, language and sovereignty.

“It is not too late to remove the attorney general or deputy attorney general like some other Council delegates feel because this is our duty as the governing body,” added Yazzie Mann. “The sun does not stop shining. One day you are in and one day you are out. The leadership of the Navajo people does not stop here, but it continues to go on and on. As long as we have a Navajo Nation, we will always have leaders to move us forward.”

Both pieces of legislation proceed to the Ethics and Rules Committee and then to the full Council for consideration. It is during a special session that the Council would consider the removal of both attorneys. If both pieces of legislation pass the Council floor, President Joe Shirley, Jr., would have to recommend to the Council the new appointments of an attorney general and deputy attorney general, pursuant to 2 N.N.C §1962(B).

To date, a special session agenda has not been announced by the Honorable Speaker Lawrence T. Morgan.

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