



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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President Shelly enacts NPEA legislation, signs executive order for disabled



had a caseload of 125 cases per year,” President Shelly said. “These new amendments to the Navajo Preference in Employment Act address those needs.”

Other areas amended by the legislation include monitoring and enforcement, remedies and sanctions, grievance procedure of tribal employees, Navajo Nation Supreme Court appeals, and remedies and enforcement of awards.

The effective date for the amendments to be enacted is Jan. 1, 2015.

On the same day, President Shelly also signed Executive Order No. 14-2014: “Ensuring the rights of Navajos with disabilities to full access to all Navajo buildings and services.”

The Navajo Nation Advisory Council on Disability and council delegate Danny Simpson joined the president for the impromptu signing ceremony at the Navajo Nation State Room.

“We have been working hard on addressing the needs of our disabled Navajos during this administration,” said President Shelly.

He explained that the disabled Navajo population is truly the “forgotten people,” a label many different segments of the population have tried to claim through the years. President Shelly said that population is also expanding, as many veterans are returning home from combat with disabilities.

The executive order focuses on ensuring accessibility for the disabled at Navajo Nation government offices, buildings, chapter houses and businesses. These accessibility standards include reasonable alterations to services, polices and procedures to ensure that people with disabilities can benefit from the facilities and services.

Delegate Simpson praised the president’s efforts in addressing the needs of disabled Navajos, including the enactment of the Navajo Nation Guardianship Act earlier this summer.

“We want to say thank you for all your help to get this thing done,” Simpson said.

The executive order was sent to Navajo Nation Attorney General Harrison Tsosie for his attestation.



Top, President Shelly signs amendments to the Navajo Preference in Employment Act into law on Nov. 17. Bottom, President Shelly signs Navajo Nation Executive Order No. 14-2014 to provide accessibility and services to disabled Navajos across the Nation. (Photo by Rick Abasta)

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.—President Shelly signed into law amendments to the Navajo Preference in Employment Act.

Legislation No. CO-48-14 was approved on Nov. 17 to streamline the grievance process for employees and make changes to the Personnel Policies Manual. It also provides reporting requirements by all employers on the Navajo Nation, as required by the Office of Navajo Labor Relations.

President Shelly said the legislation addresses many longstanding issues of employee grievances and statutes of limitations to address those grievances.

“We heard reports that Office of Navajo Labor Relations

