



## THE NAVAJO NATION

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT

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CONTACT: GEORGE HARDEEN  
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR  
OFFICE – 928-871-7000  
CELL – 928-380-7688  
georgehardeen@opvp.org

# Navajo President Joe Shirley, Jr., vetoes identical Fairness in Appropriations Act, citing lack of data

**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** – Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr., today vetoed the Navajo Nation Fairness in Appropriations Act, citing a lack of information about what services are not being provided that require taking funding from the Executive Branch to give to the Judicial Branch.

“I am extremely concerned that the percentages set forth in the proposed legislation will impair the ability of the Executive Branch to provide essential and direct services to the Navajo people,” President Shirley wrote in his veto message to Navajo Nation Council Speaker Lawrence T. Morgan. “A reduction in the planning base amount to the Executive Branch will adversely affect elder services, public safety, scholarships and other important Executive Branch programs.”

Except for the year, resolution No. CO-37-06 is a mirror image of the same legislation President Shirley vetoed a year ago.

It statutorily establishes the planning base amounts for the Executive, Legislative and Judicial Branches of the Navajo Nation government.

“However, there is no justification provided for the proposed percentages,” the President said. “In fact, there

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– Navajo President Joe Shirley, Jr.

is no information provided about the current lack of services that necessitate an increase in the planning base amounts for the Judicial and Legislative Branches, and most importantly, there is no information provided about the overall budgetary impact on the Executive Branch. “

Additionally, he wrote, there is no consideration given to the fixed costs related to operating the government. Without careful consideration of the fixed costs component of the budget, he said, the Executive Branch, and subsequently the recipients of Executive Branch services, will be even further adversely affected by this resolution.

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