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**Statement on Memorial Day from the Navajo Nation Council Speaker Lawrence T. Morgan (Iyanbito/Pinedale):**

During Memorial Day, the Navajo Nation Council pays tribute to all those who have given their lives in service of this country and to all those who have served and are now serving.

As a society that honors our fallen warriors, let us pause and remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for the good of our people. Because of their actions and the actions of all veterans and service men and women, we are able to enjoy freedom where we can practice our traditions and speak our language.

We honor the spirit that we see among our people who will fight for their homeland and the protection of their people. That spirit has long been evident and continues to hold true. The fact that Native Americans have the highest enlistment of any minority group attests to that spirit.

There are many who have given their lives for our freedom. The Navajo Nation paid tribute to our fallen Native American warriors during an honor run held last week and continues the tribute this week with a delegation headed to Washington D.C. The Navajo Nation Council would like to thank each person and organization that helped us in honoring their memories and for offering prayers for those who are currently in service. We would like to thank the Cheyenne Arapahoe Tribe, the Sac and Fox Tribe, the Lumbee Tribe, the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, Operation Carry the Flame and Rolling Thunder for sharing their hospitality as the Navajo Nation delegation joins the national run in Washington D.C. It is our hope that this is the first of many nation-wide efforts that will recognize the sacrifice of our Native American warriors.

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