NNC Title II Subcommittee Releases Draft Amendments

Nabik’iyati’ Committee places legislation on Spring Session Agenda

Window Rock, AZ — On Saturday, the Nabik’iyati’ Committee Title II Subcommittee of the Navajo Nation Council, delegated to create language on how the new structure of the Legislative Branch would operate, submitted its proposed legislation (NNC 148-11) for review prior to consideration by the Council at its Spring Session set to begin on April 18, 2011.

“I am proud of the work of the Subcommittee, many of whom spent many late nights drafting the procedures and structure for the new Council,” said Subcommittee Chairperson Leonard Tsosie (Littlewater, Pueblo Pintado, Torreon, Whitehorse Lake, Baca/Prewitt, Casamero Lake, Ojo Encino, Counselor). “However, we expect there will be further amendments to the legislation because the Subcommittee was unable to reach a complete consensus.”

To reach that consensus, members of the Nabik’iyati’ Committee will meet next week to consider additional adjustments in the language. Any additional changes to the legislation will have to be made as amendments on the Council floor during the Spring Session. The place and time for the work session will be announced soon.

The amendment legislation is the result of numerous subcommittee meetings over the past eight weeks after the Council formed the subcommittee during the Winter Session in January.

“My hope is that this version of the Title II Amendments will go a long way to making our Navajo Nation government more stable,” said Navajo Nation Council Speaker Johnny Naize, “This is the next step in making our young government permanent since being formed in 1989.

In 1989, Title II was first introduced into the Navajo Nation Code. It created the three branch government the Navajo Nation has been operating under since.

Copies of the legislation have also been sent to the Executive and Judicial Branches for their review and comment.

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