MEMORANDUM

TO: Lawrence T. Morgan, Speaker
   Navajo Nation Council

FROM: Dr. Joe Shirley, Jr., President
       THE NAVAJO NATION

DATE: November 8, 2010

SUBJECT: Resolution No. CO-43-10

The intent of this resolution is to provide consistency for matters related to felony convictions for all elected officials. If an individual is convicted of a felony, he or she is forever prohibited from running for any elected office. This prohibition applies to the Navajo Nation President, Vice President, Navajo Nation Council, chapter offices, and other elected offices, such as farm board and grazing committee positions.

This resolution however, also creates a huge inconsistency for matters related to misdemeanor convictions as it relates to qualifications for office and grounds for removal.

According to these amendments a misdemeanor conviction is no longer grounds for removal or for seeking elected office. These amendments however, only apply to the elected positions of the President, Vice President and the Navajo Nation Council and not to the other elected positions. There is no explanation for the inconsistency and why other elected positions are held to a higher standard.

For the reasons stated herein and by the authority vested in me as President of the Navajo Nation, I hereby veto Resolution No. CO-43-10.

xc: Navajo Nation Council