



**RESOLUTION OF THE
NAVAJO UTAH COMMISSION
OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL**

NUCFEB-779-19

OPPOSING HB 179 – “ROAD CLOSURE AMENDMENTS”

Whereas:

1. The Navajo Utah Commission (NUC) is a governmental subdivision of the Navajo Nation and is subject to oversight of the Navajo Nation Council – Naabik’iya’ti’ Committee pursuant to resolution no. NABIAP-21-15; and
2. State of Utah Representative Phil Lyman introduced House Bill 179 (HB 179), called the “Road Closure Amendments” during the 2019 General Session; and
3. **HB 179** seeks to amend Utah State Code, section 72-5-118, Utah Code Annotated 1953; and
4. **HB 179** proposes to make it a class C misdemeanor to place “a temporary or permanent barricade on a class A, B, C, or D road, an R.S. 2477 right-of-way, or a portion of a class A, B, C, or D road or R.S. 2477 right-of-way to permanently or temporarily close the road or right-of-way to vehicular traffic.”

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Navajo Utah Commission is concerned that HB 179 does not allow for protection of cultural resources and scenarios may exist when such preventative measures may be necessary to protect Native American cultural sites, Utah; and
2. The Navajo Utah Commission opposes HB 179 in its current form; and asks that it be withdrawn from consideration; and
3. The Navajo Utah Commission respectfully urges all Utah legislators to recognize and respect tribal sovereignty, and to involve the Navajo Utah Commission office, the Navajo Nation government, and our communities in the formation of legislation like this which may impact the lives of Diné people.

CERTIFICATION

We, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by Navajo Utah Commission at a duly called meeting in Red Mesa, Utah at which a quorum was present and the same was passed by a vote of 5 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention, this 12th day of February, 2019.



Herman Farley, Chairperson
NAVAJO UTAH COMMISSION

MOTION: Henry Steven, Jr.
SECOND: Alfred L. Jim

Chair not voting