



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

NUCJAN-869-22

**SUPPORTING S.B. 28 – OFFICE OF AMERICAN INDIAN-ALASKA NATIVE  
AFFAIRS, AND URGING THE 2022 UTAH LEGISLATURE TO ENACT  
LEGISLATION ACCORDINGLY**

**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. Chief Sponsor of S.B. 28 is Rep. Jani Iwamoto (District 4) and House Sponsor is Rep. Christine F. Watkins (District 69); and
3. S.B. 28 creates the Office of American Indian-Alaska Native Affairs within the Utah Department of Health and Human Services; and
4. S.B. 28 moves the American Indian-Alaska Native Health Office and the American Indian-Alaska Native Health Liaison to the Office of American Indian-Alaska Native Affairs; and
5. S.B. 28 requires the executive directors of the Department of Health and the Department of Human Services to jointly appoint a director of the Office of American Indian-Alaska Native Affairs; an Indian Child Welfare Act Liaison; and an American Indian-Alaska Native Health Liaison; and
6. S.B. 28 requires the Indian Child Welfare Act Liaison and the director of the Office of American Indian-Alaska Native Affairs to meet certain qualifications; and
7. The Native American Legislative Liaison Committee recommends this bill; and
8. The eight tribal nations of Utah support this legislation due to existing health disparities and limited health/human services resources available to tribal nations.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. **The Navajo Utah Commission hereby supports S.B. 28 – Office of American Indian-Alaska Native Affairs, and urging the 2022 Utah Legislature to enact legislation accordingly.**

**CERTIFICATION**

**We, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by Navajo Utah Commission at a duly called meeting by Zoom at which a quorum was present and the same was passed by a vote of 5 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2022.**



**Herman Daniels, Chairperson**  
**NAVAJO UTAH COMMISSION**

**MOTION: Kenny Victor**  
**SECOND: Patricia Blackhorn**

**Chair not voting**