



Office of Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission

P.O. Box 129 | St. Michaels, Navajo Nation (AZ) 86511

Phone: 928-871-7436 | Fax: 928-871-7437

January 12, 2026

Dear Honorable Members of the New Mexico Legislature,

Yá'át'ééh! The Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission offer our strong support for the joint memorial urging the United States Congress to pass legislation that would establish and require uniform redistricting criteria for congressional seats. Our commission believes in the fair, transparent, and equitable redistricting processes in the State of New Mexico and across the United States.

As one of the largest tribal nations in the United States, the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission's responsibility is to administratively address discriminatory actions against citizens of the Navajo Nation. This responsibility requires us to interface with the local, state, federal governments, national and international human rights organizations in accordance with Navajo Nation laws. This includes ensuring that the Navajo people are adequately represented within voting districts within three states: New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah.

The Navajo people acquired the right to vote in New Mexico in 1948, which was the result of a landmark court case involving Miguel Trujillo (Trujillo v. Garley) that challenged the state's laws that historically barred Native Americans from voting. Since that time, our Navajo people have taken great pride in participating in both state and national elections to ensure that our voice is heard and represented.

The intentions of the joint memorial are to achieve the goals of urging Congress to pass legislation that would set standards for Congressional redistricting, ban mid-cycle redistricting for states, and to encourage the U.S. Legislative Council Service to convene a working group to make recommendations for improving the 2030 redistricting process.

The right to vote is a cornerstone of our democracy and a fundamental human right. Redistricting plays a critical role in ensuring this right is meaningfully protected for all communities, particularly those that have been historically marginalized or underrepresented. The work to promote equity, protect communities of interest, and comply with constitutional and statutory protections is essential.

We commend the commitment to prevent discriminatory practices such as vote dilution and racial or partisan gerrymandering. These efforts help ensure that electoral systems remain accountable, representative, and responsive to the people they serve in New Mexico and across the United States.

The Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission recognizes that fair redistricting is not merely a technical exercise, but a civil and human right imperative. The above-mentioned memorials align with our mission to protect and promote the human rights of Navajo Citizens, which includes the right to vote. We believe that continued support in this area will contribute significantly to strengthening public trust in our electoral institutions.

We appreciate the opportunity to express our support and stand ready to collaborate, where appropriate, in advancing shared goals related to voting rights and equal representation. Please accept our best wishes for continued success in this important work.

Sincerely,



Dr. Wendy S. Greyeyes, Ph.D.
Chairperson
Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission

cc. Mrs. Darlene Womochil, Interim Executive Director

Dr. Henry Fowler, Vice-Chairperson

Mr. Roscoe Herrera, Commissioner

Mr. Kenneth Cooper, Commissioner