

MONTHLY BRIEF

STAY UPDATED ON NNWO'S WORK IN WASHINGTON DC

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Summary and analysis of recent executive orders with potential impacts for the the Navajo Nation

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Yá'át'ééh,

I want to take a moment to reflect on the important work that continues even during the August recess. With Congress out of session, our office took this opportunity to plan strategically for the months ahead, and review upcoming legislation, consultations, and initiatives that will directly impact the Nation. Our focus was to ensure that Navajo priorities were positioned for action once lawmakers returned to Washington.

In this report, you'll find updates on the areas we have continued to track closely, such as Environmental Protection, Health, Economic Development, and Agriculture, as well as summaries of consultations and administrative actions that advanced during the recess.

Thank you for following our progress and your continued engagement. We look forward to building on this momentum as Congress reconvenes.

Ahéhee'

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

On August 8, 2025, EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin announced the termination of the \$7 billion Solar for All program, eliminating over \$500 million in funding for six tribal-focused organizations. The decision follows congressional repeal of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act and will halt dozens of shovel-ready tribal solar projects, including \$62 million in planned initiatives by the Midwest Tribal Energy Resources Association.

Tribal energy advocates and partners, including the Alliance for Tribal Clean Energy, condemned the move as a blow to tribal sovereignty and a setback for combating energy poverty in Indian Country.

HEALTH

Senator Lisa Murkowski's (R-AK) staff provided a draft summary of the Native Children's Commission Implementation Act which she plans to introduce. Her office also requested comments on the draft legislation. The summary was shared with the Navajo Department of Children and Family Services.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The National Indian and Native American Employment and Training Conference (NINAETC) announced its 45th annual gathering, scheduled for December 8-11, 2025, in Providence, Rhode Island. Established in 1979, NINAETC is the largest national forum for Indian and Native American workforce development, bringing together WIOA Section 166 and Public Law 102-477 grantees. The conference will provide training, highlight program accomplishments, and offer a platform for tribal governments, organizations, and federal partners to strategize on employment and training priorities. Regional training opportunities will be announced separately.

U.S. Small Business Administration issued an Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) declaration for Arizona on August 18, 2025, covering losses from the Dragon Bravo and White Sage Fires (incident period beginning July 4, 2025). The declaration applies to Coconino County and contiguous counties in Arizona (Gila, Mohave, Navajo, Yavapai) and Utah (Kane, San Juan). Impacted businesses, small agriculture cooperatives, and nonprofits without credit available elsewhere may apply for EIDL assistance at lending.sba.gov through May 18, 2026. Interest rates are set at 4.0% for businesses/co-ops and 3.625% for nonprofits.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

On August 27, 2025, the Departments of Labor, Commerce, and Education released a new workforce plan following an April 2025 White House directive. The strategy emphasizes industry-driven training in critical sectors (manufacturing, aerospace, semiconductors, energy, etc.), prioritizing skills-based credentials over college degrees, and consolidating federal workforce programs under the proposed “Make America Skilled Again” (MASA) block grant, cutting \$1.64 billion from current funding.

The plan also calls for eliminating or reforming Job Corps, SCSEP, Adult Education, and Federal Work-Study, while expanding apprenticeships, AI workforce hubs, and streamlining reporting. The changes would centralize programs, tie funding to performance, and shift risks to service providers through pay-for-performance models.

AGRICULTURE

On August 1, 2025, Representative Sharice Davids (D-KS-3) introduced H.R. 3956, the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) Act of 2025, to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008. The bill would authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into self-determination contracts and self-governance agreements with Indian entities for the administration and procurement of FDPIR food packages. The legislation aims to empower tribes with greater flexibility and cultural relevance in food sourcing, replacing existing demonstration programs with permanent authority for tribal administration under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act.

Also on August 1, 2025, Senator Tina Smith (D-MN) introduced S.1237, the New Producer Economic Security Act, to establish a competitive grant program within USDA’s Farm Service Agency aimed at improving land, capital, and market access for beginning, disadvantaged, and tribal producers. The bill prioritizes direct assistance, land acquisition support, and technical assistance through eligible entities—including Tribes and Native CDFIs—and includes provisions for tribal consultation and land transition planning. If enacted, the program would strengthen local food systems and expand opportunities for first-time and underserved agricultural producers.

AGRICULTURE

On August 15, 2025, USDA has announced an urgent call for nominations to serve on the Tribal Advisory Committee, with four appointments to be made by Secretary Brooke Rollins and Ranking Member Angie Craig (D-MN-2) of the House Agriculture Committee. The committee advises USDA on Tribal and Indian Affairs, submitting annual reports to the Secretary and Congress. Nominations are open through September 22, 2025, and USDA encourages submissions from federally recognized Tribes, Alaska Native Corporations, and Tribal organizations with expertise in food, forestry, and agriculture. NNWO has forwarded the announcement to leadership for consideration and remains available to assist with nomination inquiries.

The Intertribal Agriculture Council announced its 2025 Annual Conference, to be held December 9-11 at Virgin Hotels Las Vegas. This signature event will convene tribal leaders, farmers, ranchers, youth, and entrepreneurs to explore market opportunities, share resources, and strengthen tribal food systems. Over three days, participants will gain access to tools for economic growth, sustainable practices, and rebuilding Indigenous food systems aligned with cultural values.

The Intertribal Timber Council, in partnership with the USDA Forest Service, will host a virtual listening session on September 25 (10:30 am–12 pm MT / 12:30–2 pm ET) to hear tribal priorities for future partnership opportunities. The session will cover updates on EO 14225, the Explore Act, and Secretarial Memo 1078-015, with discussion on shared stewardship, workforce capacity, timber infrastructure, and sustainable forest management. Tribal leaders, foresters, and partners are encouraged to attend. [Register here.](#)

FEDERAL MEETINGS

AUGUST 2025

BI-WEEKLY STATE SMALL BUSINESS CREDIT INITIATIVE (SSBCI) CAPITAL PROGRAM AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (TA) GRANT PROGRAM CHECK-IN

NNWO attends bi-weekly check-ins with the U.S. Treasury to discuss the status of ARPA SSBCI and TA grant program obligations, expenditures, and reports. During the August 21st meeting, it was confirmed that the technical assistance component will be transferred to Change Labs, with their first-tranche allocation increasing from \$7 million to \$20 million. The modification is moving through the Nation's 164 process, with a goal of completion within 30 days.

AUGUST 6, 2025

WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR STUART LEVENBACH

President Nygren and NNWO discussed the FY2027 budget process and the Nation's priorities with Mr. Levenbach, including education and public safety. Mr. Levenbach also indicated that the Nation should continue to keep him apprised of the push for our water rights settlements.

AUGUST 6, 2025

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICES, CHIEF AUDREY BETTENCOURT

President Nygren and NNWO met with NRCS Chief Audrey Bettencourt and her staff, who expressed strong engagement and requested an overview report from the Navajo Nation on agricultural needs. NNWO, in coordination with Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture Director Jesse Jim, will compile a report to include potential farmers, ranchers, and watershed projects that need support. The report will also provide updates on the Navajo Agricultural Products Industry and the Navajo Indian Irrigation Project, as well as address challenges such as invasive species, including Russian olives.

Following the meeting NNWO successfully connected General Land Development Department Director Byron Bitsoie with the NRCS office regarding an ongoing effort to establish an NRCS office in Window Rock. This new office is expected to expand technical assistance, funding access, and expert capacity to help address staffing shortages in the Navajo Nation Agriculture Department.

FEDERAL MEETINGS

AUGUST 6, 2025

U.S. TREASURER BRANDON BEACH

President Nygren and NNWO discussed expanding Opportunity Zones on the Navajo Nation and received a favorable response from the Treasurer. Treasurer Beach (who is familiar with the Navajo Nation through Billy Kirkland III and, as a former Georgia Senator, once advocated for his entire state to be designated as an Opportunity Zone) remarked his belief that the whole Navajo Nation should be considered an Opportunity Zone. The discussion highlighted potential growth through infrastructure such as new I-40 exits. NNWO also noted ongoing collaboration with NAFOA to expand economic development tools.

Overall, the Treasurer was highly receptive and is expected to be a valuable ally in advancing Opportunity Zone advocacy for the Navajo Nation. The discussion also focused on ARPA funds and the Nation's difficulty in spending and reporting on specific funding. A follow-up meeting was scheduled between NNWO and Treasury to discuss ARPA.

AUGUST 6, 2025

29TH BI-ANNUAL CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC) & AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND DISEASE REGISTRY TRIBAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

NNWO attended this meeting virtually, which focused on the CDC's plans for FY2027 and included discussions on modernizing the CDC's technology. No outcomes or commitments were made.

AUGUST 7, 2025

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADMINISTRATION

NNWO attended a presentation on the Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program and the Tribal Cybersecurity Grant Program. NNWO is reviewing whether the Nation is eligible for either grant.

AUGUST 11, 2025

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE SUB-WORKGROUP ON MANDATORY APPROPRIATIONS

NNWO attended the Sub-Workgroup meeting on IHS mandatory appropriations for FY2027. Possible strategies were discussed, including who to focus on within Congress.

FEDERAL MEETINGS

AUGUST 12, 2025

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, NAMUS

NNWO met with the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System Office at DOJ to discuss their response to the Nation's written comments from November 2024 and the Nation's advocacy efforts for tribal access to NamUs to help with the MMIP crisis.

AUGUST 12-13, 2025

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE FACILITIES APPROPRIATIONS ADVISORY BOARD

NNWO attended the meeting, which included a discussion on the next steps for the Indian Health Center facilities report to Congress, as well as a breakdown of the IHS budget on both the House and Senate sides.

AUGUST 13, 2025

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

NNWO attended the monthly National Tribal Meeting with DHS. The main topic was a discussion of FEMA grants and the notice of funding opportunities from the previous week.

AUGUST 14, 2025

SENATOR LUJÁN'S OFFICE

NNWO met with staff from Senator Luján's (D-NM) Office to discuss strategy for the 2025 Advanced Appropriations bill once it is released. The proposed bill would provide advanced appropriations for the BIA, BIE, and IHS, and is supported by the Navajo Nation Council.

AUGUST 20, 2025

USDA DEPUTY SECRETARY STEPHEN VADEN

President Nygren and NNWO met with Deputy Secretary Vaden to discuss Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations challenges that the Nation faces, as well as tribal college partnerships, and developing a stronger partnership to help the Nation further its goal of advancing food sovereignty.

FEDERAL MEETINGS

AUGUST 21, 2025

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

NNWO attended the quarterly check-in with Treasury on the status of the Nation's ARPA funds.

AUGUST 21, 2025

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NNWO attended the monthly Tribal Nations Leadership Council meeting and confirmed that there are no longer plans to cut funds from BIA Office of Justice Services and move them to DOJ Office of Tribal Justice for awarding through a competitive grant process. NNWO will continue to monitor this, however.

AUGUST 21, 2025

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

NNWO met with Kelly Rael, Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs, to discuss various pieces of legislation, funding for FY2027, and the status of this year's BIA/BIE Green Book.

AUGUST 22, 2025

SENATOR MARTIN HEINRICH'S OFFICE

NNWO met with staff from Senator Heinrich's (D-NM) main office, as well as Energy and Natural Resources, to discuss possible options for protecting Mt. Taylor from uranium mining. This will be an ongoing conversation.

AUGUST 25, 2025

WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

NNWO met with Associate Directors of Intergovernmental Affairs Katherine Kaye and Chase Wilson to discuss the Nation's immediate priorities, including the possible pocket recission on education.

AUGUST 26, 2025

SENATOR RUBEN GALLEGOS OFFICE

NNWO met with Senator Gallego's (D-AZ) office to discuss support for several pieces of legislation, including Senator Luján's upcoming Advanced Appropriations bill, the Parity for Tribal Law Enforcement Act, and others. NNWO also discussed strategy for a possible pocket recission on education.

FEDERAL MEETINGS

AUGUST 26, 2025

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

NNWO coordinated a meeting with Treasury and Navajo Broadband for technical assistance on completing the Capital Funds Project report, which ultimately resulted in the Nation not having to repay those funds.

AUGUST 27, 2025

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

NNWO met with Treasury to discuss the status of the ARPA Homeowners Assistance Fund.

AUGUST 27, 2025

CONGRESSWOMAN MELANIE STANSBURY'S OFFICE

NNWO met with Congresswoman Stansbury's (D-NM-1) staff to discuss support for the Parity for Tribal Law Enforcement Act.

AUGUST 27, 2025

CONGRESSMAN PAUL GOSAR'S OFFICE

NNWO met with Congressman Gosar's (R-AZ-9) staff to discuss support for the Parity for Tribal Law Enforcement Act.

NAVAJO MEETINGS

AUGUST 2025

NAVAJO HOPI LAND COMMISSION AND NAVAJO DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (WEEKLY)

NNWO hosts a weekly meeting with NHLCO and NNDOJ to discuss the latest developments regarding ONHIR and its likely closure

AUGUST 2025

CHACO CANYON MEETING (BI-WEEKLY)

NNWO attends the bi-weekly meetings regarding updates and strategy for Chaco Canyon

AUGUST 8, 2025

OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER, HONORING RECA ADVOCATES

NNWO attended in person Speaker Curley's RECA event to honor RECA advocates. NNWO met with advocates and discussed how the final RECA package came together during the reconciliation process as well as the next steps for the RECA applications.

AUGUST 9, 2025

NAVAJO HOPI LAND COMMISSION SPECIAL WORK SESSION

NNWO attended the NHLC Special Work Session in person and provided a report on the likely closure of ONHIR.

AUGUST 28, 2025

NAVAJO MINERALS DEPARTMENT

NNWO coordinated a meeting with the Minerals Department to decide whether to accept an invitation to participate in a GAO study on the status of coal mine reclamation efforts.

OTHER MEETINGS

AUGUST 2025
RECA WORKING GROUP (BI-WEEKLY)

NNWO attends the bi-weekly RECA Working Group meeting to discuss updates on the application process, DOJ staffing, location of application materials, and possible future amendments to the legislation.

AUGUST 1, 2025
LAURA TAYLOR, OUTSIDE COUNSEL FOR RECA WORKING GROUP

This meeting was to discuss the RECA claims window and application process, as well as a brainstorming session for how to prepare Navajo employees to assist with the new RECA applications. A follow up training will be provided and information for the training will be shared with NDOH, OPVP, and Office of the Speaker.

AUGUST 6, 2025
TRIBAL LEADERS COALITION

The Tribal Leaders Coalition met to discuss wildfire impacts, federal coordination, and next steps to protect national monument lands. Updates were also shared on the North Rim wildfire, and tribes were encouraged to participate in the upcoming Intermountain Tribal Gathering.

AUGUST 11, 2025
PLANNING FOR CONGRESSMAN ELI CRANE'S VISIT

NNWO hosted a planning meeting to finalize details for Congressman Eli Crane's (R-AZ-2) visit to Window Rock for Code Talkers Day.

AUGUST 12, 2025
MEETING WITH A REPRESENTATIVE FROM LABATT

NNWO met with a representative from Labatt to discuss the future of the Padres Mesa Ranch.

AUGUST 13, 2025
GRAND CANYON TRUST

The Grand Canyon Trust discussed ongoing concerns over Ancestral Footprints, Bears Ears, and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments amid Trump Administration efforts to reduce or eliminate monument boundaries.

AUGUST 15, 2025
BEARS EARS COALITION

The Bears Ears Coalition discussed outreach strategies

OTHER MEETINGS

AUGUST 15, 2025

TRIBAL INTERIOR BUDGET COUNCIL FOLLOW-UP

NNWO met with TIBC organizers to discuss possible changes that would make TIBC work better for the interest of the Navajo Nation.

AUGUST 20, 2025

UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE, GUARDIAN TERRELL ATCITY

President Nygren and NNWO hosted Navajo Space Force Guardian Terrell Atcity at NNWO to thank him for his service and recognize him, to the best of our knowledge, as the first Navajo to join the Space Force.

AUGUST 23, 2025

NATIVEOUTDOORS AND THE “AMERICAN SOUTHWEST”

NNWO met with producers from NativeOutdoors to discuss the possible screening of their film “American Southwest,” which focuses on how the fight for water has changed the Southwest throughout the centuries.

AUGUST 27, 2025

MEETING WITH CONSTITUENT

NNWO met with Echohawk Lefthand, a member of the Navajo Nation, who was attending the 7 Generations Center of Excellence Policy Action Institute Conference in D.C. Mr. Lefthand works in public health in Nebraska and informed us of the funding situation for public health in his area.

AUGUST 27, 2025

ANCESTRAL FOOTPRINTS COALITION MEETING

Coalition members discussed monument protection strategies and outreach.

UPCOMING CONSULTATIONS

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR - Agency Information Collection: Grazing Permits

Written Comments due September 9, 2025

The Department of the Interior is proposing to renew an information collection titled “Grazing Permits.” Learn more [here](#).

THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS - Agency Information Collection: Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act Programs

Written Comments due September 9, 2025

The Bureau of Indian Affairs is proposing to renew an information collection titled “Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act Programs.” Learn more [here](#).

THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS - Agency Information Collection: Tribal Education Department Grant Program

Written Comments due September 9, 2025

The Bureau of Indian Affairs is proposing to renew an information collection titled “Tribal Education Department Grant Program.” Learn more [here](#).

THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS - Agency Information Collection: Trust Land Mortgage Lender Checklists

Written Comments due September 9, 2025

The Bureau of Indian Affairs is proposing to renew an information collection titled “Trust Land Mortgage Lender Checklists.” Learn more [here](#).

THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT - Tribal Intergovernmental Advisory Committee Fall 2025 Meeting

Meeting scheduled September 10, 2025

The Department of Housing and Urban Development is holding a meeting of the Tribal Advisory Committee on September 10, 2025. Learn more [here](#).

UPCOMING CONSULTATIONS

THE ADMINISTRATION FOR NATIVE AMERICANS - Tribal Consultation regarding economic development resources

Written Comments due September 13, 2025

The Administration for Native Americans hosted a virtual Tribal Consultation meeting on August 14, 2025. During the meeting, ANA leadership sought input from tribal leaders concerning economic development resources needed for tribal communities. ANA invites input on the following question: What are Tribal community's priorities for economic development such as fostering private sector partnerships, improving infrastructure, supporting workforce development, or advancing other strategies Tribal communities are pursuing? Comments are due September 13, 2025. Learn more [here](#).

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY - One, Big, Beautiful Bill Act: Adoption Tax Credit

Tribal Consultation scheduled on September 15, 2025

Written Comments due October 10, 2025

The Department of the Treasury is hosting a consultation on the implementation of Section 70403, Recognizing Indian Tribal Governments for Purposes of Determining Whether a Child Has Special Needs for Purposes of the Adoption Credit, in Public Law 119-21, 139 Stat. 72 (July 4, 2025), commonly known as the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA). Learn more [here](#).

THE U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION - SBA's Programs, Identifying Issues and Best Practices

Tribal Consultation scheduled on September 17, 2025

The U.S. Small Business Administration announces that it is holding a tribal consultation meeting in Wayland, Michigan requesting comments and input on all issues or concerns relating to any of SBA's programs. Specifically, SBA seeks comments on how best SBA can provide access for tribally-owned small businesses to SBA's various financial assistance programs under SBA's Office of Capital Access, as well as its contracting, business counseling, and technical assistance programs. SBA is requesting general comments and input on how these programs are working and is inviting suggestions on potential avenues for making the programs more efficient or reducing any unnecessary regulatory burden associated with the programs. The Tribal Consultation meeting date is Wednesday, September 17, 2025, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. (EDT), Wayland, Michigan. The Tribal Consultation meeting pre-registration deadline date is September 12, 2025. Learn more [here](#).

UPCOMING CONSULTATIONS

THE UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION - Request for Applications: Tribal Issues Advisory Group

Application materials due September 19, 2025

The United States Sentencing Commission hereby invites any individual who has expertise, knowledge and/or experience in the issues considered by the Tribal Issues Advisory Group to apply to be appointed to the advisory group. Learn more [here](#).

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - Notice of Solicitation for Nominations to the Tribal Advisory Committee

Nominations due September 22, 2025

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is soliciting nominations for four vacancies on the USDA Tribal Advisory Committee. Three members will be appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture for a three-year term and one by the Ranking Member of the House Committee on Agriculture to serve the remainder of the vacancy term ending December 19, 2025. Learn more [here](#).

THE ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES - Providing Technical Assistance Related to the Indian Child Welfare Act

Written Comments due September 22, 2025

The Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau is seeking public comment, in particular from State and Tribal title IV-B agencies and Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations and consortia (Tribes), and State and Tribal courts on providing technical assistance related to the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 (ICWA), removing undue burden related to meeting the requirements of title IV-B of the Social Security Act (the Act), changes to the Court Improvement Program, and amendments aimed at increasing the number of studies of programs and services eligible for review by the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse. ACF is issuing this Federal Register Notice in response to requirements in the Supporting America's Children and Families Act, Public Law 118-258. The comments ACF receives in response will inform ACF's work to meet the new requirements in Public Law 118-258. Learn more [here](#).

THE OFFICE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN - Notice of Task Force on Research on Violence Against American Indian and Alaska Native Women Meeting

Meeting scheduled September 30, 2025

The Office of Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice has scheduled a meeting of the Task Force on Research on Violence Against American Indian and Alaska Native Women. Learn more [here](#).

Addressing Threats to the United States by the Government of the Russian Federation

Issued August 6, 2025

This order imposes a 25% tariff on imports from Indian due its direct or indirect importation of Russian oil, aiming to strengthen U.S. national security and foreign policy measures against Russia's actions in Ukraine. The order authorizes ongoing monitoring of other countries importing Russian oil and grants authority to modify tariffs or take further actions as needed to address the national emergency

This order MIGHT impact Navajo

Indian is a significant trade partner and tariffs could raise the prices of some goods.

Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking

Issued August 7, 2025

This order directs agency heads to designate senior officials responsible for rigorously reviewing discretionary grant proposals and funding announcements to ensure alignment with agency priorities, national interests, and strict standards that exclude funding for initiatives deemed anti-American or unsafe. It also mandates revisions to grant terms to allow termination when grants no longer serve priorities, streamlines application requirements, limits administrative costs, and promotes accountability and interagency coordination to prevent wasteful or ideologically driven spending of taxpayer dollars.

This order MIGHT impact Navajo

The Nation relies on federal funding for the majority of its operations, including a significant number of grants. Future Navajo grant applications will need to be carefully crafted to avoid being contrary to administration values, especially given the current anti-DEI attitudes.

Democratizing Access to Alternative Assets for 401(K)

Issued August 7, 2025

This order directs the Department of Labor to reassess and clarify fiduciary guidance under ERISA to enable 401(k) and other defined-contribution plans to include alternative asset investments, aiming to expand access to diversified and potentially higher-return options traditionally available only to wealthy and public pension investors. It also calls for coordination with the SEC and other regulators to reduce regulatory barriers and litigation risks that have limited such investment opportunities for millions of American retirement savers.

This order MIGHT impact Navajo

This may make it easier for Navajo workers to invest in new types of assets through their retirement accounts. This may have implications for the Nation's benefits programs for its employees.

Further Modifying Reciprocal Tariff Rates to Reflect Ongoing Discussions with The People's Republic of Cina

Issued August 11, 2025

This order extends the suspension of certain additional tariffs on Chinese imports until November 10, 2025, citing ongoing trade discussions and progress by China in addressing U.S. concerns over non-reciprocal trade practices and national security issues. Relevant federal agencies are directed to take all necessary actions to implement the extension and ensure compliance with applicable laws.

This order MIGHT impact Navajo

The extension gives some more time before the higher costs of importing Chinese goods, which makes up a large percent of consumer products. This will have an impact on some office supplies for the Nation but should have a smaller impact on inputs into manufacturing and construction, with the exception of solar panels and EV batteries.

Revocation of Executive Order on Competition

Issued August 13, 2025

The President revoked Executive Order 14036, which had promoted competition in the American economy. This order clarifies that it does not alter existing legal authorities, budgetary functions, or create enforceable rights

This order MIGHT impact Navajo

The Biden-era order that has been revoked called for stricter anti-trust enforcement actions, and encouraging net neutrality. The order was criticized as preferencing federal authority over the free market, but the actual impact of the order is unclear. Likewise, revoking the law seems to ratify current practice under the Trump FTC rather than change anything substantively. In the long run this could impact the economy and Navajo business ventures, but whether the impact will be positive or negative is not clear.

Ensuring American Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Resilience by Filling the Strategic Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients Reserve

Issued August 13, 2025

This order calls for the rapid filling of the Strategic Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient Reserve with a six-month supply of APIs for approximately 26 critical medicines, prioritizing domestic production where possible. The plan includes readying the SAPIR repository within 120 days, updating the essential medicines list, and proposing a second repository to strengthen pharmaceutical supply chain resilience.

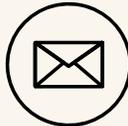
This order MIGHT impact Navajo

This should increase preparedness for public health challenges like the next flu season. There will likely be little direct impact to the Nation, though there may be some indirect impacts on the health of Navajo citizens.

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