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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 3/11/09

SPONSOR Begaye LAST UPDATED _____ HM 91

SHORT TITLE Utah Navajo Trust Fund Trusteeship SB _____

ANALYST Burns

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Indian Affairs Department (IAD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Memorial 91 is a memorial relating to the Utah Navajo people which requests the United States congress to place trusteeship of the Utah Navajo Trust Fund in the hands of Utah Navajos and to acknowledge human rights injustices.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal impact.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to the Utah Department of Administrative Services, "The Utah Navajo Trust Fund is a private purpose trust fund of the State of Utah. The majority of the money funding this account comes from oil royalties from the Aneth Extension of the Navajo Indian Reservation. These royalties are paid to the State for the health, education, and general welfare of the Navajo Indians residing in San Juan County, Utah.

Prior to June 30, 2008, the Trust Fund had oversight authority by a three member board of trustees composed of the Utah State Treasurer, the Director of Finance, and a State officer or

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employee appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Day-to-day program activities were managed by the Trust Fund Administrator from offices in Blanding, Utah. A nine-member Dinah Committee provided input and advice as to how the funds from the Trust Fund may be expended.

During the 2008 General Session of the Utah Legislature, House Bill 352 was passed which recognized the repeal of the Utah Navajo Trust Fund. The bill moved responsibility to fulfill the liabilities and obligations of the repealed Utah Navajo Trust Fund to the Department of Administrative Services and provided for a transition process until Congress designates a new recipient of Utah Navajo royalties (<http://unf.utah.gov/>).”

HM 91 requests the US congress to designate Utah Navajos as the recipients of the royalties and to allow those Navajos to control use of the funds.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

HM 91 also requests that the US congress publicly acknowledge and atone for the egregious abuses of human rights of the Utah Navajo people and all Navajo people.

KJB/mt