



Reclaiming Traditional & Ceremonial Tobacco

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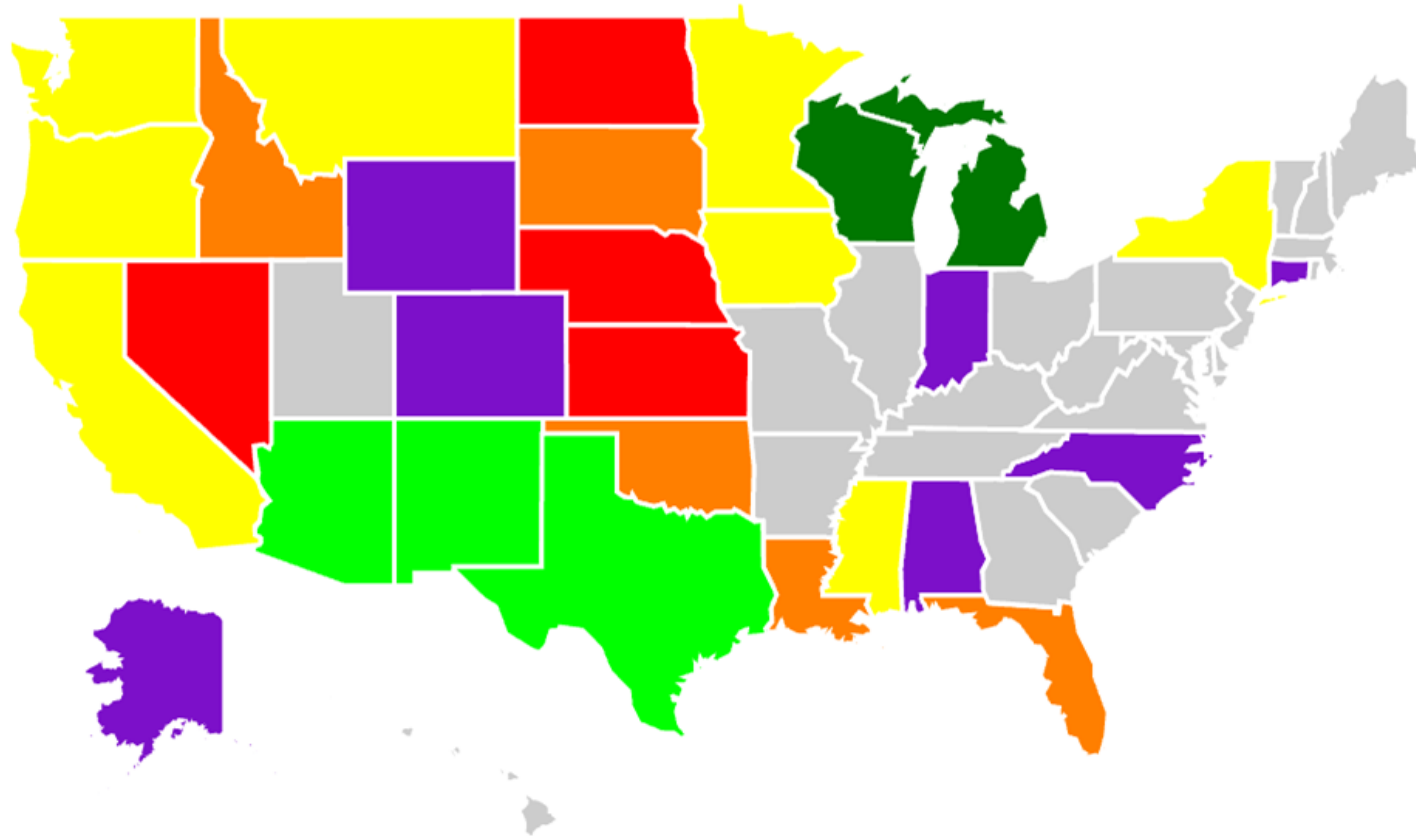


2023 NMACTION Conference
Albuquerque, NM – September 21, 2023

Pandemic related changes

Current Smokefree Indian Gaming Property Status Map

150 smokefree Indian gaming properties in the United States (29%)



Property Type

- Commercial
- Indian
- All

Legend

- All Indian properties smokefree
- More than 80% of properties smokefree
- Up to 80% of properties smokefree
- Up to 60% of properties smokefree
- Up to 40% of properties smokefree
- Up to 20% of properties smokefree
- No Indian properties smokefree
- No properties in state

[View a Summary of Smokefree Gaming Properties by State](#)

Lessons Learned

- Resources and TA
 - <https://smokefreecasinos.org/resources/>
- Produce and edit videos
- Speak at conferences
- Host webinars
- Work directly and indirectly on Tribal policy campaigns

NIGA panelists back smoke-free tribal casinos



Moderator Andrew Klebanow of Klebanow Consulting in Las Vegas, standing, speaks during the "Smoking in Casinos: Did We Have it Wrong?" panel at the Indian Gaming Tradeshow and Convention Expo at Caesars Forum in Las Vegas Tuesday.

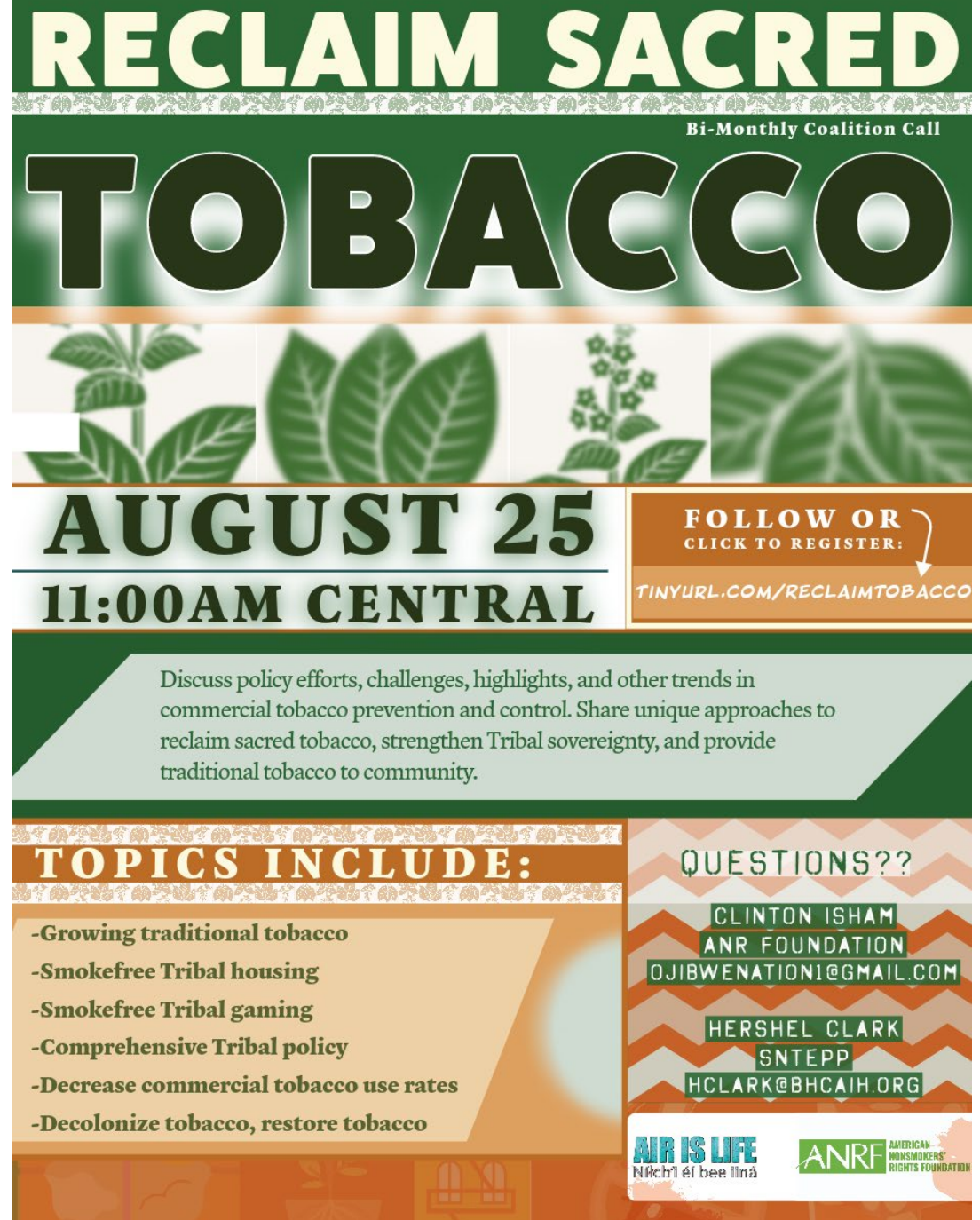


By Richard N. Velotta Las Vegas Review-Journal

July 20, 2021 - 7:56 pm



- First call was November 2022
- ANR Foundation & Air is Life coalition to discuss different stages of smokefree Tribal policy change
- Past calls introducing ANR Foundation Smokefree Tribal Policy Guide
- Four steps: Research, Community Outreach, Policy Development, and Policy Introduction



RECLAIM SACRED
Bi-Monthly Coalition Call

TOBACCO

AUGUST 25
11:00AM CENTRAL

FOLLOW OR CLICK TO REGISTER:
[TINYURL.COM/RECLAIMTOBACCO](https://tinyurl.com/reclaimtobacco)

Discuss policy efforts, challenges, highlights, and other trends in commercial tobacco prevention and control. Share unique approaches to reclaim sacred tobacco, strengthen Tribal sovereignty, and provide traditional tobacco to community.

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Growing traditional tobacco
- Smokefree Tribal housing
- Smokefree Tribal gaming
- Comprehensive Tribal policy
- Decrease commercial tobacco use rates
- Decolonize tobacco, restore tobacco

QUESTIONS??

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AIR IS LIFE
Nácht'í éi bee'íiná

ANRF AMERICAN NONSMOKERS' RIGHTS FOUNDATION

Smokefree Tribal Policy Guide - 1

- Research
- Expand knowledge of Tribal history, sovereignty, and culture before initiating Tribal policy campaign
- Tribal Land, Government, Gaming, Tobacco, Medicine, etc.

Land

How many federal Indian reservations are located in your state or near you? How many state recognized Tribes are located in your state or near you?

Recognize the past and present contributions of Indigenous people.

Tribal Government

What are Indian reservations? What is Tribal sovereignty? How does Tribal government work? Understand the Tribal government and its election process.

Understand the Tribal government and its election process.

Smokefree Tribal Policy Guide - 2

- Community Outreach
- Learn how information is shared in Tribal community, and identify a local coalition to lead the smokefree policy change process.

Chicago Native Community Sugarbush Camp, 2023



Smokefree Tribal Policy Guide - 3

Air is Life, Winslow, AZ, 2022

- Policy Development
- Develop a step-by-step plan with local coalition to guarantee smokefree policy success within the Tribal community.



Smokefree Tribal Policy Guide - 4

- Policy Introduction
 - Before
 - During
 - After




Lac du Flambeau Indian Bowl
Outdoor Smokefree Event Center, 2016



Eastern Band Cherokee Nation, 2021



EXAMPLE POLICY GUIDE TO: SMOKEFREE TRIBAL HOUSING

<u>Research</u>	<u>Community Outreach</u>	<u>Policy Development</u>
<p>What type of housing is most prevalent in the Tribal community (private, Tribally-owned, public housing, etc.)? Is there a Tribal Housing Authority or other decision-making board that oversees public housing? Does the Tribe have multi-unit housing complexes or elderly housing? Are there any smokefree housing units in the Tribal community?</p>	<p>Identify Tribal-housing stakeholders, local coalition, or policy champion. Develop subcommittee to introduce smokefree policy and led smokefree policy campaign. Attend Tribal government meetings and engage in housing policy discussions. Develop / initiate communication plan with coalition and request support, input, and participation from local community.</p>	<p>Seek support/ permission from THA to administer surveys and communicate directly with Tribal housing tenants. Administer community readiness survey if needed. Develop smokefree housing policy plan with subcommittee, local coalition, THA decision makers, and stakeholders. Finalize components of smokefree housing policy (processes, stages, protocols, enforcement, language, etc.) with the tenants. Suggestion: utilize the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians resource “Smoke-free Housing Implementation Guide”.</p>
<p><i>Increase knowledge of Tribal community and housing system in place before engaging in policy change process.</i></p>	<p><i>Tribal community and housing tenants receive important smokefree policy information regularly and local coalition is committed to Tribal policy change.</i></p>	<p><i>Smokefree Tribal housing plan is developed with local coalition, THA, and other stakeholders.</i></p>
<u>Pre Policy Introduction</u>	<u>Smokefree Policy Introduction</u>	<u>Post Policy Introduction</u>
<p>Identify decision makers, board, or committee for Tribal housing. Request to present smokefree Tribal housing policy plan to decision makers. Prepare presentation and policy information packets. Share policy progress to coalition, Tribal housing tenants, and other supporters.</p> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 20px;">  </div>	<p>Attend initial Tribal housing policy hearing with coalition. THA / decision-makers may suggest designating a percentage of Tribally designated housing entities smokefree or implementing smokefree housing in other increments. Request follow up hearing, initiate partnership with THA, update policy plan with THA, and co-present updated policy to Tribal housing decision makers.</p>	<p>Policy is passed. Request to host event for Tribal leaders signing policy to law. Send press release and share the status/ progress of smokefree Tribal housing policy. Local coalition and/or THA secures funding for resources, signs, and other materials needed to implement and enforce smokefree housing policy. Provide THA technical assistance or other evaluation resources (e.g., monitor air particulate matter change, employee training, or survey design).</p>
<p><i>Smokefree Tribal housing policy is ready to be introduced to Tribal Housing Authority or Tribal council.</i></p>	<p><i>Smokefree Tribal housing policy is introduced to Tribal Housing Authority or Tribal council.</i></p>	<p><i>Smokefree Tribal housing policy is successfully implemented, enforced, and evaluated accordingly.</i></p>





Lac du Flambeau Indian Bowl Smoke-Free Policy **Event Organizer**

Thank you for keeping the Lac du Flambeau Indian Bowl Smoke-Free. We need everyone's help to protect our guests from secondhand smoke.

Your packet includes several talking-point sheets to be distributed to staff and participants present at the event. These talking point sheets are to be used as a guide to enforce our Smoke-Free policies and ensure a safe environment for all.

- The following individuals should be presented talking points. The sheets are color coded for your convenience:*
- **The Arena Director / MC**
 - **Each security guard**
 - **The ticket concessions**
 - **Each vendor**
 - **Drumming groups (1 per group)**



The Indian Bowl has adopted an official policy banning the use of all commercial tobacco products on Indian Bowl grounds. This includes (but is not limited to) cigarettes, pipes, cigars, hookahs, e-cigarettes, vape pens, and all other commercial tobacco.

THIS POLICY IS IN EFFECT AT ALL EVENTS HELD ON INDIAN BOWL GROUNDS.

The Smoke-Free policy doesn't include traditional tobacco. Only traditional tobacco used for ceremonial purposes is allowed.

Announcements

Every 30 minutes, please have the MC make an announcement reminding guests of the Smoke-Free policy.

If you see someone smoking at the Indian Bowl, politely remind them ...

"The Indian Bowl is Smoke-Free. We want to keep the air clean and safe for everyone, especially children, elders, pregnant women."

Point out areas where individuals can go to smoke, such as the Simpson parking lot

Thanks! Miigwetch!

Clinton Isham

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Difference Between Commercial Tobacco vs. Dzil Nat'oh (Mountain Smoke)

Dzil Nat'oh



Commercial Tobacco



[Differences Between Commercial Tobacco and Dził Nát'oh - YouTube](#)

Navajo Traditional Healer Perspectives

Navajo Traditional Healer Perspectives on Commercial Tobacco: A Digital Story Project

A 4-Part Educational Video Series

The Digital Story Project is a component of the National Cancer Institute funded "Networks Among Tribal Organizations for Clean Air Policies (NATO CAP)". NATO CAP is a community-based participatory research project aimed at studying efforts towards commercial tobacco smoke-free policy on Diné Nation and related discussions.





Navajo Traditional Healer Organizations

Azee' Bee Nahagha' of Dine' Nation
(Youth Committee)



Dine' Hataalii Association
(Tobacco Knowledge)





Commercial Tobacco-Free Policies within Navajo Traditional Organizations

On February 8, 2014, Azee' Bee Nahagha' of Dine' Nation passed a commercial tobacco-free policy in the Constitution and By Laws.



AIR IS LIFE
Nítch'í éí bee iiná

On November 6, 2021, President Nez and VP Myron Lizer signed the historic health policy Navajo Nation Nítch'í éí Bee íiná Air is Life Act of 2021 into law. (Note: It took 13 years to pass the law).

Develop policy with Community & Coalitions

AIR IS LIFE
Nítch'i éí bee iiná



Navajo Community Events



Air is Life Strategic Planning Meeting 2022

AIR IS LIFE HEALTH COALITION: POLICY

- **Commercial Tobacco Tax Increase** on all commercial tobacco products include;
 - Cigarettes , Cigars , Smokeless (chew) Tobacco
 - **E-cigarettes** (currently not taxed)
 - All other nicotine products
 - Earmark funds toward the Navajo Department of Health.
 - **20% to Navajo Traditional healers and organizations**
 - Air is Life Petition, LOS, etc.

The Air is Life Health Coalition will be proposing the Navajo Nation Commercial Tobacco Tax of 2024 to the 25th Navajo Nation Council. This legislation will increase all commercial tobacco taxes, including e-cigarettes/vaping in Navajo Nation.

Let us make Navajo Nation a Healthier Nation.

SCAN ME TO SIGN PETITION

FOR MORE INFO:
Visit: www.navajopairislife.com

SNTEPP
Navajo Nation Tobacco End Use Program

AIR IS LIFE
NILCH'I ÉI BEE IINA

AIR IS LIFE COALITION: COALITION

- Established the *"Reclaim Sacred Tobacco"* initiative with the American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation
- Discuss policy efforts, challenges, highlights, and other topics on commercial tobacco prevention and control among Tribal communities nationwide.
- Share culturally appropriate approaches to reclaiming ceremonial tobacco, ways to strengthen Tribal sovereignty, and provide ceremonial tobacco to tribal communities.
- Working on developing a Tribal tobacco toolkit.



RECLAIM SACRED TOBACCO

Bi-Monthly Call

Date: Friday, April 28, 2023
Time: 11 am - 12 pm CST

Zoom meeting hyperlink:
<https://tinyurl.com/ReclaimTobacco>

Join us as we discuss reclaiming our sacred medicine: tobacco.

This will be an opportunity for Tribal advocates to share ideas and resources, set mutual goals and most importantly, build camaraderie and strengthen our connections.

Each time we meet, we will prioritize discussing the importance of reclaiming traditional Native tobacco and focus on a specific Tribal region or community.

Discussion topics:

-  Growing traditional tobacco
-  Smoke-free housing
-  Smoke-free Tribal gaming
-  Comprehensive Tribal policy
-  Commercial tobacco elimination
-  Decolonizing tobacco

Questions?
Contact:
Clinton Isham at: ojibwenation1@gmail.com
or
Hershel Clark at: hclark@bhcaih.org

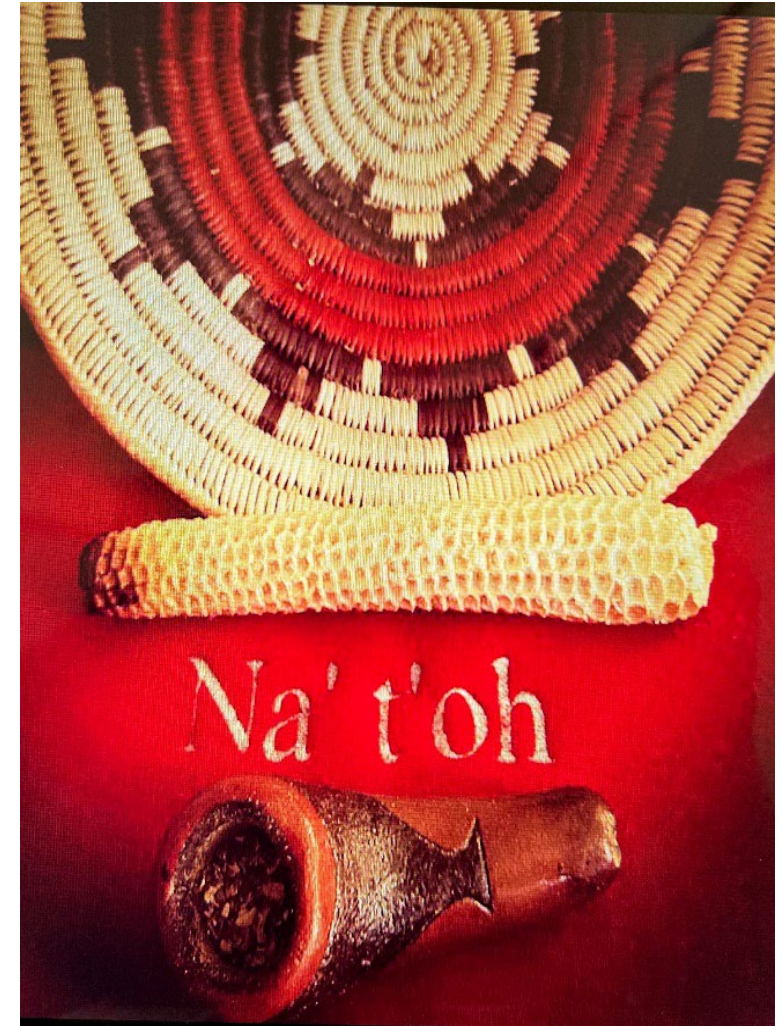
AIR IS LIFE HEALTH COALITION: POLICY

- Prohibit the sales of all flavored commercial tobacco products in the Navajo Nation was initially proposed to Navajo Nation leaders, but they were not ready.
- Thus, the SNTEPP and Air is Life Coalition plan to educate (Radio/newspaper ads, presentations, community events, etc.) Navajo leaders
- Plan to recruit high school and college students to help with initiative.



Tobacco and Navajo Culture

- Navajo Nation is a sovereign nation – Policy – 412,000 tribal members.
- Diné beliefs recognize four sacred plants: corn (east), beans (south), quash (west), and tobacco (north) – diet and health.
- Dził Nat'oh (ceremonial tobacco) plays a significant role in Navajo culture (tobacco songs, prayers, offerings, oral stories, and health).
- Commercial tobacco was “introduced” into Navajo culture – Colonization



Reclaiming Ceremonial Tobacco: It's a Process!

- ✓ Prevention and Education
- ✓ Research (History)
- ✓ Advocacy
- ✓ Policy
- ✓ Generational – Future



More Information

**Díí Kwe'é Aná'í Binát'oh
Doo Choo'íí Da**



**Ahéhee'!
Thank you!**



Navajo Nation Code No. 58-21

Countdown to Law
Going Into Effect

23 11 30 43
Days Hours Mins Secs

AIR IS LIFE
Nítch'i éí bee iiná

HOME ABOUT AIR IS LIFE DOWNLOAD THE COMMERCIAL SMOKE-FREE SIGN GET THE FACTS More

Welcome to:

Air is Life Health

www.navajoairislife.com



**SIGN OUR
PETITION**

The Air is Life Health Coalition will be proposing the Navajo Nation Commercial Tobacco Tax of 2024 to the 25th Navajo Nation Council. This legislation will increase all commercial tobacco taxes, including e-cigarettes/vaping in Navajo Nation.

Let us make Navajo Nation a Healthier Nation.



SCAN ME TO SIGN PETITION

FOR MORE INFO:

Visit: www.navajoairislife.com



SNTEPP **AIR IS LIFE**
NILCH'I ÉÍ BEE IINÁ



**Sign the Petition in Support of
the Navajo Nation Commercial
Tobacco Tax of 2024**

AIR IS LIFE

Nítch'i éí bee iiná

Ahe'hee!
(Thank You)

