

REFERENCE TITLE: Chief Barboncito Highway; Route 191

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-seventh Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2026

## **HCM 2016**

Introduced by  
Representative Tsosie

A CONCURRENT MEMORIAL

URGING THE STATE BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC AND HISTORIC NAMES TO RENAME UNITED STATES ROUTE 191 AS THE CHIEF BARBONCITO HIGHWAY.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 To the Chairperson of the State Board on Geographic and Historic Names:

2 Your memorialist respectfully represents:

3 Whereas, Chief Barboncito was a prominent Navajo (Diné) leader  
4 associated with the Canyon de Chelly region and is remembered for  
5 leadership during a pivotal period in Diné history; and

6 Whereas, the forced removal of the Navajo (Diné) people, known as  
7 the Long Walk, resulted in their exile at Bosque Redondo near Fort Sumner,  
8 New Mexico, causing profound hardship and loss of life; and

9 Whereas, on June 1, 1868, the United States and the Navajo (Diné)  
10 Nation entered into the Treaty of Fort Sumner (Treaty of 1868), which  
11 provided for the Diné people to return to their homeland and reestablished  
12 a reservation in Arizona; and

13 Whereas, Navajo (Diné) leaders, including Chief Barboncito,  
14 negotiated and signed the Treaty of 1868, with historical records  
15 reflecting that Chief Barboncito signed with an "X mark"; and

16 Whereas, United States Route 191 is a primary corridor serving  
17 communities in northeastern Arizona, providing access to Chinle and Canyon  
18 de Chelly National Monument, with the recommended route reaching Chinle  
19 via Highway 191; and

20 Whereas, designating United States Route 191 as the "Chief  
21 Barboncito Highway" would honor Diné history, uplift a respected  
22 indigenous leader and educate residents and visitors about the Treaty of  
23 1868 and the resilience of the Navajo (Diné) people.

24 Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of  
25 Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:

26 1. That the State Board on Geographic and Historic Names rename  
27 United States Route 191 as the "Chief Barboncito Highway".

28 2. That the Secretary of State transmit a copy of this Memorial to  
29 the Chairperson of the State Board on Geographic and Historic Names.