

RESOLUTION OF THE
NAABIK'IYATI' STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE
24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- First Year, 2019

AN ACTION

RELATING TO LAW AND ORDER COMMITTEE, NAABIK'IYATI' COMMITTEE;
SUPPORTING NEW MEXICO HOUSE BILL 278 TITLED "AN ACT RELATING TO
MISSING PERSONS; CREATING THE MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS
WOMEN TASK FORCE; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY"

WHEREAS

- A. The Navajo Nation established the Naabik'iyati' Committee as A Navajo Nation Council standing committee and as such empowered the Naabik'iyati' Committee to coordinate all requests for information, appearances and testimony relating to proposed county, state and federal legislation impacting the Navajo Nation. See 2 N.N.C. §§ 700 (A), 701 (A) (6). See also CO-45-12.
- B. The Navajo Nation established the Law and Order Committee ("LOC") as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee and as such empowered LOC to review and recommend resolutions relating to public safety within the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §§ 164(A)(9), 600 *et seq.* See also CO-45-12.
- C. The Navajo Nation has a government-to-government relationship with the State of New Mexico.
- D. During the First Regular Session of 2019, New Mexico House Bill 278 was introduced to the 54th Legislature by Representatives Andrea Romero, Derrick Lente and Melanie Stansbury. See New Mexico HB 278 attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.
- E. House Bill 278 seeks to establish a task force to address missing and murdered Indigenous women comprised of the Secretary of Indian Affairs, Secretary of Public Safety, the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs, and appointed persons

representing the Jicarilla Apache Nation, Mescalero Apache Tribe, the Navajo Nation and a member of a Pueblo. *Id.*

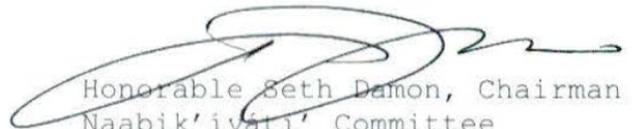
- F. The Task force is established to conduct a study to determine how the State of New Mexico can increase state resources for reporting and identifying missing and murdered Indigenous women, and other enumerated purposes. *Id.*
- G. The Act also provides an appropriation of \$100,000 for the creation and maintenance of the task force. *Id.*

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

- A. The Navajo Nation hereby supports New Mexico House Bill 278 titled "AN ACT RELATING TO MISSING PERSONS; CREATING THE MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN TASK FORCE; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY" attached hereto as **Exhibit A.**
- B. The Navajo Nation hereby authorizes the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council, President of the Navajo Nation, and their designees, to advocate the Navajo Nation's support of New Mexico House Bill 278.

CERTIFICATION

I, hereby, certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Naabik'iyati' Committee of the 24th Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting in Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona), at which a quorum was present and that the same was passed by a vote of 18 in Favor, and 00 Opposed, on this 28th day of February 2019.


Honorable Seth Damon, Chairman
Naabik'iyati' Committee
24th Navajo Nation Council

Motion: Honorable Rickie Nez
Second: Honorable Wilson Stewart, Jr.

Chairman Seth Damon not voting

1 HOUSE BILL 278

2 **54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Andrea Romero and Derrick J. Lente and Melanie A. Stansbury

5
6
7
8 AN ACT

9 RELATING TO MISSING PERSONS; CREATING THE MISSING AND MURDERED
10 INDIGENOUS WOMEN TASK FORCE; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION;
11 DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

12
13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

14 **SECTION 1.** TEMPORARY PROVISION--MISSING AND MURDERED
15 INDIGENOUS WOMEN TASK FORCE--CREATED--FINDINGS--REPORT.--
16

17 A. The "missing and murdered indigenous women task
18 force" is created.
19

20 8. The task force consists of:

21 (1) the secretary of Indian affairs or the
22 secretary's designee from the Indian affairs department, who
23 shall be chair of the board;

24 (2) the secretary of public safety or the
25 secretary's designee from the department of public safety;

.211870.1

1 (3) a representative of the United States
2 bureau of Indian affairs office of justice services designated
3 by the southwest region's deputy regional director for Indian
4 services of the bureau of Indian affairs;

5 (4) one person who is a member of a pueblo,
6 appointed by the governor;

7 (5) one person who is a member of the
8 Jicarilla Apache Nation, appointed by the governor;

9 (6) one person who is a member of the
10 Mescalero Apache Tribe, appointed by the governor; and

11 (7) one person who is a member of the Navajo
12 Nation, appointed by the governor.

13 C. Vacancies by members of the task force appointed
14 by the governor shall be filled by appointment by the governor.

15 D. Task force members appointed by the governor may
16 receive per diem and mileage as provided for non-salaried public
17 officers in the Per Diem and Mileage Act and shall receive no
18 other compensation, perquisite or allowance.

19 E. The task force shall conduct a study to
20 determine how to increase state resources for reporting and
21 identifying missing and murdered indigenous women in the state.
22 The task force shall collaborate with tribal law enforcement
23 agencies to determine the scope of the problem, identify
24 barriers to address the problem and create partnerships to
25 improve the reporting of and the investigation of missing and

.211870.1

1 murdered indigenous women.

2 F. The task force shall working with tribal
3 governments and shall respect tribal sovereignty. The task
4 force shall collaborate with the United States department of
5 justice to improve its processes for information sharing and
6 coordination of resources in regard to reporting and
7 investigating cases of missing and murdered indigenous women
8 in the state.

9 G. The task force shall report its findings and
10 recommendations to the governor, the legislative council
11 service library and the appropriate interim legislative
12 committee and present those findings to the appropriate interim
13 legislative interim committee prior to November 1, 2020.

14 **SECTION 2.** APPROPRIATION.--One hundred thousand dollars
15 (\$100,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the Indian
16 affairs department for expenditure in fiscal years 2019 and
17 2020 to create and maintain the missing and murdered indigenous
18 women task force. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance
19 remaining at the end of fiscal year 2020 shall revert to the
20 general fund.

21 **SECTION 3.** EMERGENCY.--It is necessary for the public
22 peace, health and safety that this act take effect immediately.

NAVAJO NATION

RCS# 69

Naa'bik'iyati Committee

2/28/2019
06:07:25 PM

Amd# to Amd# Legislation 0032-19: Supporting
New Mexico House Bill 278 Titled
"An Action Relating to Missing
Persons; Creating the....

PASSED

MOT Nez, R
SEC Stewart, W

Yea: 18

Nay: 0

Excused: 0

Not Voting: 6

Yea: 18

Begay, E
Begay, P
BeGaye, N
Brown
Charles-Newton

Crotty
Freeland, M
Halona, P
Henio, J
Nez, R

Smith
Stewart, W
Tso, C
Tso, D

Tso, E
Tso, O
Walker, T
Yellowhair

Nay: 0

Excused: 0

Not Voting: 6

Begay, K
Damon

Daniels
James, V

Wauneka, E

Yazzie