

2019 New Mexico State Legislature  
New Mexico Indian Affairs Department  
Policy Unit Summary



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# Indian Affairs Department Policy Unit Summary

April 2019

The mission of the Indian Affairs Department is to support the tribal communities' efforts to meet their challenges and expand their opportunities; leverage state resources for tribal benefit; and work to create vital relationships across state, tribal philanthropic, educational and private sectors for the New Mexico Indian nations, tribes, and pueblos.

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## I. Introduction

The 2019 New Mexico State Legislature Indian Affairs Department Policy Unit Summary provides a narrative of legislation that impacts New Mexico's Indian nations, tribes, and pueblos in the areas of education, natural resources, energy, cultural and community resources, health, criminal justice, veterans, and governance. With over 1,600 bills introduced in the 2019 legislation, the Indian Affairs Department policy unit conducted analysis of 85 bills for the Legislative Finance Committee and tracked more than 100 bills related to Indian communities. This summary reflects legislation signed by Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham, legislation that passed through the Legislature but not signed by the Governor, and legislation that either died in committee or on the senate/house floor.

## II. Education

The 2019 Legislative session was marked by a trend towards developing a multicultural and culturally appropriate educational framework and funding support for the state's public school system. The *Yazzie/Martinez v. State of New Mexico* court decision requires the state to provide sufficient education for students that are at-risk, English language learners, Native American, or have special education needs. A cabinet-level Early Childhood Education and Care Department was created that includes an Assistant Secretary for Native American Early Education and Care. The Assistant Secretary will be responsible for oversight of Indian early childhood education programs and collaboration with tribal leaders, providers, and community partners. The Native American Student Needs Assessments bill requires school districts with a high population of Indian students to conduct needs assessments to determine the support required from school, home, and the community to assist Indian students to succeed in school, graduate, and be ready for college and careers. Several Impact Aid bills were introduced but did not pass in this session. This remains a hot topic for future legislation. Lastly, after 10 years, the Lottery Fund for Tribal Colleges bill passed and was signed into law by Governor Lujan Grisham. This allows accredited tribal colleges to provide the Legislative Lottery Scholarship to qualified students. The provisions of these bills will have significant impacts for tribal communities and school districts and will require effective tribal collaboration to better serve the needs of Indian students.

### A. LEGISLATION FOR EDUCATION – CHAPTERED/PASSED

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- **[HB 5/SB 1](#) - Public Education Changes**, Rep. Sheryl Williams Stapleton, Rep. Patricia Lundstrom, Rep. Christine Trujillo, Rep. G. Andres Romero, Rep. Roberto Gonzales/ Sen. Mimi Stewart, Sen. Gay Kernan, Sen. William Soules

Makes changes to the public school funding formula and sections related to school programs. The bill creates a public education reform fund.

**Keywords:** Indian Education, Public School Funding Formula

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- **[HB 111](#) - Cultural & Linguistic Education**, Rep. Tomás Salazar, Rep. Linda Trujillo, Rep. Derrick Lenté

Creates a new section of the Regional Cooperative Education Act that authorizes Regional Education Cooperatives to jointly apply for funding to provide technical assistance and professional development for teachers with culturally and linguistically diverse students.

**Keywords:** Indian Education, Language

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- **[HB 127](#) – College Affordability Act Changes**, Rep. G. Andrés Romero

Increases the per-student per-semester College Affordability Scholarship maximum from \$1,000 to \$1,500 and increases the annual distribution from the College Affordability Endowment Fund to the College Affordability Scholarship Fund. Makes this scholarship available to tribal colleges.

**Keywords:** Higher Education, Scholarship

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- **[HB 250](#) - Native American Student Needs Assessments**, Rep. Derrick Lente

Requires school districts with high numbers of Indian students to conduct needs assessments to determine the services that school districts need to provide to Indian students to ensure graduation and be college- and career-ready. The school districts shall consult with local tribes and communities to prioritize the needs.

**Keywords:** Indian Education, Tribal Consultation

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- **[HB 589](#) - Community School, Early Childhood & Pre-K**, Rep. Elizabeth Thomson, Rep. Christine Trujillo, Rep. Joy Garratt, Rep. Debra Sariñana, Rep. Patricia Roybal Caballero

Amends the Community School Act, expanding the purpose of community schools to address the cultural and linguistic needs of students from early childhood programs and pre-kindergarten through high school. Calls for federal, state, and tribal governments to partner with community-based organizations to improve the coordination, delivery, effectiveness, and efficiency of services, align and leverage community resources, and integrate funding streams.

**Keywords:** Indian Education, Tribal Consultation

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- **[SB 22](#) - Early Childhood Education and Care Department**, Sen. Michael Padilla, Rep. Linda Trujillo

Creates the Early Childhood Education and Care Department as a cabinet-level department. The Department will create an Assistant Secretary for Native American Early Education and Care. The Assistant Secretary will be responsible for oversight of Indian early childhood education programs, consultation with tribal governments, and collaboration with providers and community partners to provide culturally relevant education for Indian children.

**Keywords:** Indian Education, Pre-K, Indian Education Advisory Council

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- **[SB 179](#) - Disabilities Students Lottery Scholarship**, Sen. Elizabeth Stefanics

Amends the Lottery Tuition Scholarship Act to clarify that a student who had to leave the state to receive an education pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act is qualified to receive a Legislative Lottery Tuition Scholarship under certain circumstances. The bill provides additional college funding for qualified tribal students.

**Keywords:** Higher Education, Disabilities, Scholarship

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- **[SB 229](#) - School Support & Accountability Act**, Sen. Mimi Stewart

Repeals the A-thru-F Schools Rating Act and replaces it with the School Support and Accountability Act. Tribal consultation is required.

**Keywords:** Tribal Consultation, Indian Education

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- [SB 329](#) - **Opening Public Schools on Tribal Land**, Sen. Linda Lopez, Rep. Georgene Louis  
Adds three new sections to the Public School Code requiring the Public Education Department, school districts, and charter schools to consult with tribal leaders and school families when considering opening or closing a public school on tribal land.

**Keywords:** Tribal Consultation, Indian Education

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- [SB 407](#) - **Lottery Fund for Tribal Colleges**, Sen. Benny Shendo Jr.  
Amends the Legislative Lottery Tuition Scholarship Act to include scholarship funding to accredited tribal colleges. Three tribal colleges are eligible for the lottery scholarship: Navajo Technical University, Diné College, and the Institute of American Indian Arts. The Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute is not eligible for the scholarship funding because the Institute’s tuition is provided by the federal Bureau of Indian Education.

**Keywords:** Higher Education, Scholarship, Tribal College

### III. Natural Resources

Land, water, air, plants, wildlife—these resources are all integral to the cultural and physical well-being of tribal nations and citizens. During this year’s legislative session, several new acts were introduced that impact tribal nations. The Healthy Soil Act creates a soil education, outreach and grant program at the New Mexico Department of Agriculture. The Wildlife Corridors Act directs the Departments of Game and Fish and Transportation to prepare an action plan in collaboration with Indian nations, tribes, and pueblos to protect wildlife corridors that cross state-tribal lines. The Forest and Watershed Restoration Act creates a fund for forest and watershed restoration or workforce development. The Hemp Manufacturing Act regulates the production, testing, research, manufacturing and transport of hemp, and allows the New Mexico Department of Agriculture and New Mexico Environment Department to enter into cooperative or joint powers agreements with tribes to develop production plans and/or manufacturing of hemp products on tribal lands. The Environmental Review Act, commonly known as the “state NEPA Act,” requires a state agency, when evaluating a proposed project, to consider the effects and level of impact to public health, ecosystems and environment. This bill died in committee but could be reintroduced in a later legislative session.

A water bill of interest includes the Interstate Stream Commission Membership that increases tribal representation on the Commission from one to two members. The Interstate Stream Commission has the authority to investigate, protect, conserve and develop New Mexico’s water including both interstate and intrastate stream systems. This bill did not become law.

House Bill 2, General Appropriation Act of 2019, included a provision that was line-item vetoed by Governor Lujan Grisham. The provision would have placed seed regulation solely with the New Mexico State University Department of Agriculture. Tribal members raised concerns about this provision as many tribal nations are concerned with seed sovereignty issues and maintaining traditional seeds.

Lastly, a new division was created within the Economic Development Department to increase outdoor-based economic development, tourism and ecotourism; recruit out-of-state-based outdoor recreation businesses to locate in New Mexico; promote stewardship and preservation of New Mexico’s unique environment and cultural assets; and promote education about and use of outdoor recreation assets to enhance public health.

#### A. LEGISLATION FOR NATURAL RESOURCES – CHAPTERED/PASSED

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- [HB 204](#) - **Healthy Soil Act**, Rep. Nathan Small, Rep. Sen. Elizabeth Stefanics, Rep. Melanie Stansbury

Creates a healthy soil education, outreach and grant program at the New Mexico Department of Agriculture. Indian nations, tribes, and pueblos are identified as eligible entities to participate in the program.

**Keywords:** Agriculture, Healthy Soil, Grant

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- **[HB 266](#) - Forest & Watershed Restoration Act**, Rep. Paul Brandy, Sen. Peter Wirth

Enacts the Forest and Watershed Restoration Act and the Forest Land Protection Revolving Fund for projects on any lands in the state for on-the-ground restoration treatments, project planning, economic development programs to advance the use of small-diameter trees and wood biomass removed for hazardous fuel reduction and forest and watershed restoration, or workforce development for wood utilization projects.

**Keywords:** Forest, Watershed, Biomass, Grant

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- **[HB 581](#) - Hemp Manufacturing Act**, Rep. Derrick Lente

Provides guidance regarding hemp and post-harvest hemp cooperative activities between state and tribal entities. Allows and regulates the production, testing, research, manufacturing and transport of hemp.

**Keywords:** Hemp, Agriculture, Cooperative Agreement, Joint Powers Agreement

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- **[HM 42](#) - Prescribed Fire Working Group**, Rep. Matthew McQueen

The Energy, Mineral and Natural Resources Division is to convene a working group to study the expansion of prescribed fire in New Mexico. Tribes have been catastrophically impacted by prescribed fires that developed into wildland wildfires. The working group will report to the appropriate interim legislative committee by July 1, 2020.

**Keywords:** Prescribed Fire, Wildfires, Land Management

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- **[SB 228](#) - Wildlife Corridors Act**, Sen. Mimi Stewart

Enacts the Wildlife Corridors Act, directing the Department of Game and Fish and the Department of Transportation to prepare a wildlife corridors action plan. The Act allows for opportunities to collaborate with and enter into joint powers agreements as necessary with Indian nations, tribes, and pueblos; relevant agencies or Indian nations, tribes, and pueblos in neighboring states; and relevant federal agencies to protect wildlife corridors that cross state or tribal lines.

**Keywords:** Joint Powers Agreement, Wildlife Protection

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- **[SB 462](#) - Create Outdoor Recreation Division**, Sen. Jeff Steinborn, Rep. Nathan Small, Rep. Angelica Rubio, Rep. Wonda Johnson, Sen. Steven Neville

Included in the Outdoor Recreation Division bill is a Special Projects and Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Fund, which will fund the outdoor equity grant program, intended for outdoor recreation programs for low-income youth up to the age of 18.

**Keywords:** Outdoor, Ecotourism, Grant, Economic Development

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## **B. OTHER LEGISLATION FOR NATURAL RESOURCES**

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- **[HB 2](#) - General Appropriation Act of 2019**, Rep. Patricia Lundstrom (line-item vetoed)

Section 4, Subsection J, Subsubsection New Mexico State University, Paragraph 6 of the Conference Committee Report 2, dated March 15, 2019, for House Bill 2, General Appropriation Act of 2019

(page 142 of 217) appropriates “sufficient funding to the department of agriculture at New Mexico state university to promulgate rules to solely regulate seed.”

**Keywords:** Seed, Department of Agriculture

- **[HB 206](#) - Environmental Review Act**, Rep. Gail Chasey, Sen. Mimi Stewart (died in committee)

Requires a state agency to evaluate a project to determine the effect on environment. If the evaluation indicates significant effect, the state agency must perform an environmental assessment of the project. If the assessment shows a significant environmental impact, a more detailed environmental impact statement presenting alternatives to the project is required. The Act requires cooperating agency status of tribes, nations, pueblos if the project is within 15 miles of a tribal boundary.

**Keywords:** Cooperating Agency, Environmental Assessment

- **[SB 5](#) - Interstate Stream Commission Membership**, Sen. Peter Wirth (pocket veto)

Changes the Interstate Stream Commission (ISC) membership to eight members and state engineer: four members appointed by the Governor and four appointed by legislative council, all through the advice and consent of the Senate. Current ISC members, as of July 1, 2019, shall continue in their positions until replacements have been appointed. A new term begins January 1, 2020.

**Keywords:** Water, Irrigation, Engineer, Interstate

## IV. Energy

New Mexico is ranked second in the nation for solar energy potential and tenth for wind potential. The energy legislation introduced during this session moves the state towards becoming a leader in renewable energy with the Energy Transition Act setting the path towards this goal. Other energy bills focused on providing educational and financial assistance to impacted energy workers and establishing efficient use in our current electrical systems.

### A. LEGISLATION FOR ENERGY- CHAPTERED/PASSED

- **[HB 7](#) - Higher Education Centers of Excellence**, Rep. Micaela Cadena and Rep. Tomas Salazar  
House Bill 7 creates a Center of Excellence at four higher education institutions to promote innovation in and expand various industries: New Mexico Tech for Cybersecurity; New Mexico State University for Sustainable Agricultural Industries; San Juan College for Renewable Energy Industries; and the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center for Bioscience Industries.

**Keywords:** Renewable Energy, Higher Education

- **[HM 26/SM 56](#) - Uranium Workers Day**, Rep. Eliseo Alcon/ Sen. John Pinto

Establishes February 15, 2019, as Uranium Workers Day in recognition of the contributions of uranium workers and the ongoing health and environmental impacts as a result of historical uranium industrial operations.

**Keywords:** Environment, Uranium, Laguna, Acoma, Navajo

- **[HM 71](#) - Study Smart, Hybrid Microgrids for New Energy**, Rep. Abbas Akhil

Smart, hybrid microgrids are modern, small-scale versions of a centralized electricity system that generate, distribute, and regulate electricity to homes and businesses, and support workforce development by requiring specialized installation and long-term maintenance. The Renewable Energy Transmission Authority will lead a task force to study the efficacy of using smart, hybrid microgrids

as part of New Mexico's renewable energy portfolio. Indian nations, tribes, and pueblos could be ideally suited for the development of microgrids on their lands because tribes are discrete, self-regulated communities with the ability to establish their own renewable portfolio standard, often have high electricity loads, and have the ability to create their own tribal utility authority.

**Keywords:** Microgrid, Task Force, Tribal Utility

- **[SB 489](#) - Energy Transition Act**, Sen. Jacob Candelaria, Rep. Nathan Small, Sen. Mimi Stewart, Rep. Patricia Roybal Caballero, Rep. Brian Egolf

The Energy Transition Act incrementally increases the state's renewable portfolio goal to 100 percent by 2050 and provides funding to transition the San Juan Generating Station's workforce to new jobs. The Secretaries of Indian Affairs, Economic Development and Workforce Solutions Departments will each appoint three conveners who reside in the affected communities. The conveners will appoint community members to the community advisory committee to provide recommendations on the use of three available energy transition funds: Energy Transition Indian Affairs Fund, the Energy Transition Economic Development Assistance Fund, and the Energy Transition Displaced Worker Assistance Fund. Communication and collaboration with affected tribal communities will be pursuant to the State-Tribal Collaboration Act.

**Keywords:** Renewable Energy, Utilities, Indian Affairs Fund, Transition, Tribal Collaboration, Workforce

- **[SM 24](#) - Agency Support for Future Energy Careers**, Sen. Pete Campos

The memorial requests that state agencies advance and support policies and programs that remove access barriers, improve outreach and better align education and training programs with energy workforce needs in support of the New Mexico Energy Roadmap.

**Keywords:** Energy Roadmap, Energy, Outreach

## B. OTHER LEGISLATION FOR ENERGY

- **[HB 210](#) - Community Solar Act**, Rep. Patricia Roybal Caballero, Sen. Elizabeth Stefanics, Rep. Andrea Romero (died in committee)

A community solar facility is a solar electric generation facility where an energy storage facility may be co-located, owned or operated by a public utility, an affiliate of a public utility or a subscriber organization. This bill would allow New Mexico Indian nations, tribes, and pueblos, or municipalities and businesses to build community solar facilities and transmit electricity to the grid.

- **[HB 398](#) - Oil, Gas and Vented-Gas Royalties**, Rep. Derrick Lente (died in committee)

Allows for an increased royalty of 25 percent when the production of oil or gas reaches a determined level, requires the lessee to use all reasonable means to prevent the waste of oil and gas, including venting and flaring, and requires a royalty for all wasted oil or gas including vented, flared, spilled or stolen oil or gas. This bill could potentially decrease future oil and gas waste, including venting and flaring near tribal lands.

**Keywords:** Venting, Flaring, Royalties

## V. Cultural and Community Resources

Indian people have a strong connection to their cultures, religions, and ancestries through songs, dances, languages, customs, and traditions. Two memorials in the 2019 Legislative Session enhance the protection of cultural and community resources sacred to Indian people. First, a memorial requests the

Attorney General, the Cultural Affairs Department, and the Indian Affairs Department to collaborate with Indian nations, tribes, pueblos, and others for the protection of Pueblo, Navajo, Apache, and Intertribal dances and songs as protected state cultural resources. House Memorial 51 requests that the Children, Youth, and Families Department, in consultation with Indian nations, tribes, and pueblos, develop plans, policies, and procedures that recognize tribal customary adoption, which transfers the custody of an Indian child to the care and protection of adoptive parents without terminating the rights of the birth parents. Other cultural resource bills include renaming historical sites from a tribal perspective. The 2019 Legislative Session memorials protect cultural resources and enhance state-tribal collaboration for generations to come.

#### **A. LEGISLATION FOR CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES –CHAPTERED/PASSED**

- **[HM 51](#) - Tribal Customary Adoption**, Rep. Georgene Louis, Rep. Wonda Johnson

Requests the Children, Youth and Families Department, in consultation and collaboration with Indian nations, tribes, and pueblos, to develop a tribal customary adoption plan, policies and procedures, and to make legislative recommendations for the implementation of tribal customary adoption in state courts.

**Keywords:** Indian Child Welfare, Tribal Consultation

- **[HM 70](#) - Protect Native American Songs & Dances**, Rep. Anthony Allison

Requests the Office of the Attorney General, Cultural Affairs and Indian Affairs Departments work with Indian nations, tribes, and pueblos to enhance protection of Pueblo, Navajo, Apache and Intertribal dances and songs as protected state cultural resources.

**Keywords:** Cultural Resources, Native Dances, Intertribal, Collaborate

## **VI. Health**

A few significant health bills were introduced this session that impact New Mexico's tribal communities. The County and Tribal Health Councils Act encourages the development of comprehensive, community-based health planning councils to identify and address local health needs and priorities. Another bill would change the Lynn and Erin Compassionate Use Act directing the Secretary of Health to adopt and promulgate rules for the Department of Health by March 1, 2020, that identifies requirements for the granting of reciprocity to a medical cannabis program, which could include Indian nations, tribes, and pueblos. Another bill related to medical cannabis did not pass, which would have allowed the Department of Health to enter into intergovernmental agreements with Indian nations, tribes, and pueblos to implement a medical cannabis program. Lastly, school-based health was also in the 2019 legislation allowing public schools to support students' health needs in diabetes management and early intervention for dyslexia. This allows Native American students access to care while reducing time away from school. The health bills that passed in the 2019 legislation session will enhance tribal input and collaboration for the well-being of our Indian people.

#### **A. LEGISLATION FOR HEALTH- CHAPTERED/PASSED**

- **[HB 137](#) - County & Tribal Health Councils Act**, Rep. Anthony Allison, Rep. Elizabeth Thomson

The purpose of the Act is to improve the health of New Mexicans by encouraging the development of comprehensive community-based health planning councils to identify and address local health needs and priorities. The health councils shall prepare and update community health plans at regular

intervals that inventory resources, identify priorities, and develop strategies to address health priorities.

**Keywords:** Health Council, Jurisdiction

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- **[SB 48](#) - Student Diabetes Management Act**, Sen. Mimi Stewart

Creates the Student Diabetes Management Act that directs the Department of Health to adopt and promulgate rules for the training of school employees towards the care of students with diabetes. Parents who seek diabetes care at school shall submit a diabetes medical management plan for schools to review and implement. Research shows that school-based health reduces student time away from school and increases access to health care.

**Keywords:** Diabetes, Public Schools, Public Health, Health

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- **[SB 398](#) - Dyslexic Student Early Interventions**, Sen. Mimi Stewart

Requires all first-grade students to be screened for dyslexia. A student whose screening demonstrates characteristics of dyslexia and who is having difficulty learning to read, write, spell, understand spoken language or express thoughts clearly shall receive appropriate classroom interventions or be referred to a student assistant team. Early detection and intervention would benefit the students' ability to learn.

**Keywords:** Dyslexic, Public Schools, Public Health, Health

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- **[SB 406](#) - Medical Marijuana Changes**, Sen. Gerald Ortiz y Pinto

By March 1, 2020, the Secretary of Health shall adopt and promulgate rules relating to medical cannabis program reciprocity, which could include Indian nations, tribes, and pueblos.

**Keywords:** Medical Cannabis, Registry, Reciprocity

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## VII. Criminal Justice

A November 2018 report released by the Urban Indian Health Institute identified New Mexico as having the highest number of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. The report showed that lack of available data on urban Indians, the need to increase effective cross-jurisdictional law enforcement coordination and communication, and the high incidence of violence against Indigenous women and girls are all major issues that contribute to this crisis. New Mexico legislators responded with two bills introduced in the house and senate and one senate memorial. The house bill creates a task force chaired by the Secretary of Indian Affairs to work collaboratively with tribal law enforcement agencies to determine the scope of the problem, identify barriers to addressing the problem, and create partnerships to improve the reporting and investigation of missing and murdered Indigenous women. The senate memorial supports the work of Congresswoman Deb Haaland at the federal level.

The Justice Reinvestment Initiative provided a comprehensive analysis of New Mexico's criminal justice system through data review and engagement with key criminal justice stakeholders. As part of this initiative, two house bills, the Criminal Justice Reform bills, were introduced and passed. House Bill 267 focuses on data reform, specifically creating a data sharing network, identifying biometric information (such as fingerprints, DNA, etc.), and providing requirements for arrest records content and disposition. The second bill, HB 342, focuses on behavioral health interventions for those incarcerated and creating a framework to reduce recidivism.

Other relevant criminal justice legislation introduced during this session focused on juvenile delinquency notice to tribes when tribal youth are involved and allowing tribal judges to participate in judicial education programs offered through the New Mexico Judicial Education Center.

## A. LEGISLATION FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE – CHAPTERED/PASSED

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- [HB 149](#) - **Juvenile Delinquency Notice to Tribes**, Rep. Georgene Louis

Requires notice to Indian nations, tribes, and pueblos in certain proceedings concerning Native American minors.

**Keywords:** Indian Child Welfare, Juvenile, Probation, Parole

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- [HB 278](#) - **Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women**, Rep. Andrea Romero, Rep. Derrick Lente, Rep. Melanie Stansbury, Rep. Wonda Johnson

Creates a task force chaired by the Secretary of the Indian Affairs to study and determine how to increase state resources for reporting and identifying missing and murdered Indigenous women in the state.

**Keywords:** Violence, Missing Persons, Tribal Sovereignty

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- [SB 313](#) - **Tribal Judges in Judicial Education Center**, Sen. Jacob Candelaria, Sen. Benny Shendo Jr.

Authorizes the New Mexico Judicial Education Center to offer education to tribal judges along with judges working in the state and municipal court system.

**Keywords:** Tribal Judges

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- [SM 38](#) - **Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women**, Sen. John Pinto

A memorial supporting U.S. Congresswoman Deb Haaland's call for a National Investigation of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

**Keywords:** Violence, Congress, Missing Persons

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- [SM 115](#) - **Protect Children from Violence**, Sen. John Pinto

Calls for the United States and Navajo Nation to take proactive steps to protect children who are victims of violent crime and to hold perpetrators accountable.

**Keywords:** Children, Navajo, Abuse

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## B. OTHER LEGISLATION FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE

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- [SB 453](#) - **Missing and Murdered Native American Data**, Sen. Linda Lopez (died in committee)

Requires the Department of Public Safety to collect data on missing and murdered Native Americans.

**Keywords:** Missing, Murdered

## VIII. Other Legislation

This section includes legislation that have significant impacts to tribal communities and did not fall under the categories of Education, Natural Resources, Energy, Cultural and Community Resources, Health, or Criminal Justice. A tax bill makes multiple changes to the gross receipt tax, personal income tax, internet delivery tax, tobacco tax, and other taxes and fees. The internet delivery tax will be based on the zip code where the product is delivered. Next, tribes can soon apply to the Local Government Planning Fund for critical planning documents for a variety of public infrastructure projects. Senate Bill 18 appropriates the New Mexico Finance Authority \$3 million for the purpose of funding local governments and other qualified entities to evaluate, estimate, and determine the most feasible costs or

alternatives for infrastructure, and to develop planning documents. Lastly, the Columbus Day holiday will be renamed to Indigenous Peoples' Day.

#### **A. LEGISLATION FOR OTHER – CHAPTERED/PASSED**

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- **[HB 6](#) - Tax Change**, Rep. Jim Trujillo, Rep. Sheryl Stapleton, Rep. Javier Martinez, Rep. Susan Herrera, Rep. Antonio Maestas

Makes multiple changes to the gross receipts tax, personal income tax, internet delivery tax, tobacco tax, and other taxes and fees. HB6 will use zip codes for internet delivery tax. It is unclear how the Taxation and Revenue Department will address the collection of taxes for internet delivery on tribal land.

**Keywords:** Taxes, Internet Tax

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- **[HB 100](#) - Replace Columbus Day as Indigenous Peoples' Day**, Rep. Derrick Lente, Rep. Andrea Romero

Renames Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day

**Keywords:** Legal Holiday, Indigenous

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- **[SB 18](#) - Local Government Planning Fund**, Sen. Jacob Candelaria, Rep. Tomás Salazar
- Appropriation made to the New Mexico Finance Authority, where tribes can apply for funds to support tribal comprehensive planning documents.

**Keywords:** Tribal Comprehensive Planning, Funding