

HOUSE BILL 492

**53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017**

INTRODUCED BY

Georgene Louis

AN ACT

RELATING TO CULTURAL PROPERTY; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO STUDY PROTECTIONS FOR CULTURAL PROPERTY AND PATRIMONY; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

**SECTION 1. APPROPRIATIONS.--**

A. One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the cultural affairs department for expenditure in fiscal years 2017 and 2018 for a study to be completed in collaboration with the office of the attorney general to identify ways to prevent the theft, wrongful sale and alienation of cultural property and cultural patrimony from the state in violation of state and federal laws; to determine how to strengthen related state laws; and to develop related proposed legislation for presentation to the

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1 legislative interim committee that studies Indian affairs by  
2 November 1, 2017. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance  
3 remaining at the end of fiscal year 2018 shall revert to the  
4 general fund.

5 B. Two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) is  
6 appropriated from the general fund to the office of the  
7 attorney general for expenditure in fiscal years 2017 and 2018  
8 to provide for personnel to complete work on a study to be  
9 completed in collaboration with the cultural affairs department  
10 to identify ways to prevent the theft, wrongful sale and  
11 alienation of cultural property and cultural patrimony from the  
12 state in violation of state and federal laws; to determine how  
13 to strengthen related state laws; to develop related proposed  
14 legislation for presentation to the legislative interim  
15 committee that studies Indian affairs by November 1, 2017; and  
16 to assist in the prosecution of the theft, wrongful sale and  
17 alienation of cultural property or patrimony. Any unexpended  
18 or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year  
19 2018 shall revert to the general fund.

20 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY.--It is necessary for the public  
21 peace, health and safety that this act take effect immediately.