1	SENATE MEMORIAL 38
2	54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019
3	INTRODUCED BY
4	John Pinto
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10	A MEMORIAL
11	SUPPORTING UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN DEB HAALAND'S CALL FOR A
12	NATIONAL INVESTIGATION OF MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN
13	AND GIRLS.
14	
15	WHEREAS, the alarming number of indigenous women and girls
16	who disappear or are murdered each year is a national disgrace;
17	and
18	WHEREAS, four out of five Native American women are
19	affected by violence today; and
20	WHEREAS, the United States department of justice found
21	that Native American women face murder rates that are more than
22	ten times the national average; and
23	WHEREAS, out of seventy-one cities in the country, the
24	city of Albuquerque has one of the highest numbers of urban
25	Native American women and girls who have been reported missing
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or murdered, according to a recently published report by the
 urban Indian health institute; and

WHEREAS, in urban New Mexico, which includes Albuquerque, Farmington, Gallup and Santa Fe, seventy-eight women and girls have been reported missing or murdered since 1956, making New Mexico the state with the highest instance of violence in the urban demographic; and

WHEREAS, the urban Indian health institute reported that the challenges and barriers in accessing data on this issue from law enforcement severely impede the ability of communities, tribal nations and policymakers to make informed decisions on how best to address the violence; and

WHEREAS, no federal agency has comprehensive data on how many indigenous women and girls are murdered or missing; and

WHEREAS, the issue of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls is a priority of Congresswoman Deb Haaland, a Pueblo of Laguna tribal member, who represents New Mexico's first congressional district in the United States house of representatives; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Haaland is one of two of the first Native American women to be elected to congress; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Haaland describes the number of missing and murdered indigenous women as an epidemic and has stated that she plans to seek justice for these women at the national level; and

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WHEREAS, Congresswoman Haaland noted that missing and murdered indigenous women is a significant issue in Indian country, but that women care about the issue all over the country; and

WHEREAS, missing and murdered indigenous women and children are not just statistics and numbers; they are someone's child, or sister, or auntie or mother;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that United States Congresswoman Deb Haaland be supported in her call for a national investigation of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to Congresswoman Deb Haaland, the mayors of Albuquerque, Farmington, Santa Fe, Gallup and Las Cruces and the members of the New Mexico congressional delegation.

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