

1 HOUSE BILL 208

2 **55TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2021**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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

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10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO MISSING PERSONS; EXTENDING THE MISSING AND MURDERED  
12 INDIGENOUS WOMEN TASK FORCE; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION; DECLARING  
13 AN EMERGENCY.

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

16 SECTION 1. Laws 2019, Chapter 106, Section 1 is amended  
17 to read:

18 "SECTION 1. TEMPORARY PROVISION--MISSING AND MURDERED  
19 INDIGENOUS WOMEN TASK FORCE--[CREATED] EXTENDED--FINDINGS--  
20 REPORT.--

21 A. The "missing and murdered indigenous women task  
22 force" is created and shall exist until the end of fiscal year  
23 [2021] 2022.

24 B. The task force consists of:

25 (1) the secretary of Indian affairs or the

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1 secretary's designee from the Indian affairs department, who  
2 shall ~~[be chair]~~ serve as co-chair of the task force;

3 (2) the secretary of public safety or the  
4 secretary's designee from the department of public safety, who  
5 shall serve as co-chair;

6 (3) a representative of the United States  
7 bureau of Indian affairs office of justice services designated  
8 by the southwest region's deputy regional director for Indian  
9 services of the bureau of Indian affairs;

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

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

14 (6) one person who is a member of the  
15 Mescalero Apache Tribe, appointed by the governor;

16 (7) one person who is a member of the Navajo  
17 Nation, appointed by the governor;

18 (8) one person from the office of the medical  
19 investigator;

20 (9) one person who is a representative of an  
21 indigenous women's nongovernmental organization that provides  
22 counseling services for indigenous women and girls who have  
23 been victims of violence, appointed by the governor;

24 (10) one person who is a representative of a  
25 statewide or local nongovernmental organization that provides

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1 legal services to indigenous women and girls who have been  
2 victims of violence, appointed by the governor; ~~and~~

3 (11) one person who is an indigenous woman who  
4 has been a victim of violence or a family member of an  
5 indigenous woman who has been a victim of violence, appointed  
6 by the governor; and

7 (12) other representatives identified by the  
8 co-chairs who are essential to include in future policy  
9 discussions.

10 C. Vacancies by members of the task force appointed  
11 by the governor shall be filled by appointment by the governor.  
12 Vacancies by members of the task force appointed by the task  
13 force co-chairs shall be filled by appointment by the task  
14 force co-chairs.

15 D. Task force members ~~[appointed by the governor]~~  
16 may receive per diem and mileage as provided for non-salaried  
17 public officers in the Per Diem and Mileage Act and shall  
18 receive no 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

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1 murdered indigenous women.

2 F. The task force shall work 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 in  
8 the state.

9 G. The task force shall report [~~its~~] a summary of  
10 its work, policy recommendations and any additional findings  
11 and recommendations to the governor, the legislative council  
12 service library and the appropriate interim legislative  
13 committee and present those findings to the appropriate interim  
14 legislative committee prior to November 1, [~~2020~~] 2021."

15 SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.--Fifty thousand dollars  
16 (\$50,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the Indian  
17 affairs department for expenditure in fiscal years 2021 and  
18 2022 to pay the expenses incurred by the missing and murdered  
19 indigenous women task force. Any unexpended or unencumbered  
20 balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2022 shall revert  
21 to the general fund.

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