



P.O. BOX 309
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September 1, 2011

PUEBLO OF ACOMA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

TELEPHONE: 505/552-6604
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Honorable Linda Lopez
Honorable Mary Helen Garcia
Co-Chairs Legislative Redistricting Committee
State Capitol
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Dear Senator Lopez and Representative Garcia,

The Pueblo of Acoma endorses the Native American Redistricting Principles and Proposed Maps for the New Mexico Senate, House, Public Regulatory Commission and New Mexico Congressional Districts. The Pueblo also supports the collaborative efforts and unified tribal front that led to the development of the Principles and Maps. Together, the Redistrict Principles and the Proposed Maps reflect our communities of interest and the commonality of issues shared among the tribes that reinforces tribal self-determination, including a commitment to cultural preservation and responsible natural resource development.

In addition, the Pueblos, Tribes and Nations, who helped craft and develop the Principles and Maps are united in their efforts in protecting their rights granted under the Voting Rights Act. We fully believe that under the Act we have a right to demand the re-drawing of districts that allows us to select candidates who are responsive to our needs and represent our interests both at the state and congressional levels.

The Native American Redistricting Workgroup worked tirelessly in preparing the Principles and Maps that were presented to your committee on August 31, 2011. The Workgroup focused on strengthening existing Native American Majority districts on both the House and Senate side as well as creating Native American influence districts.

The Pueblo of Acoma is dedicated to strengthening its relationship with the New Mexico Legislature especially in the upcoming Special Session. We seek your support during the Special Session in promoting the ideals captured in the Redistricting Principles and the Proposed Maps submitted for your committee's consideration. Thank you.

Sincerely,

PUEBLO OF ACOMA

Randall Vicente
Governor

cc: ATO Files