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A MEMORIAL

SUPPORTING UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN DEB HAALAND'S CALL FOR  
A NATIONAL INVESTIGATION OF MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS  
WOMEN AND GIRLS.

WHEREAS, the alarming number of indigenous women and  
girls who disappear or are murdered each year is a national  
disgrace; and

WHEREAS, four out of five Native American women are  
affected by violence today; and

WHEREAS, the United States department of justice found  
that Native American women face murder rates that are more  
than ten times the national average; and

WHEREAS, out of seventy-one cities in the country, the  
city of Albuquerque has one of the highest numbers of urban  
Native American women and girls who have been reported  
missing 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

1 from law enforcement severely impede the ability of  
2 communities, tribal nations and policymakers to make informed  
3 decisions on how best to address the violence; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE  
25 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that United States Congresswoman

1 Deb Haaland be supported in her call for a national  
2 investigation of missing and murdered indigenous women and  
3 girls; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
5 transmitted to Congresswoman Deb Haaland, the New Mexico  
6 Municipal League, New Mexico Counties, Indian nation, tribal  
7 and pueblo leadership in New Mexico, the Secretary of  
8 Department of Public Safety, the Secretary of Indian Affairs,  
9 the United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Indian  
10 Affairs, the mayors of Albuquerque, Farmington, Santa Fe,  
11 Gallup and Las Cruces and the other members of the New Mexico  
12 congressional delegation. \_\_\_\_\_

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