DISCUSSION DRAFT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO HIRE A FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE TO RESEARCH AND THEN MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING CROSS-COMMISSION AGREEMENTS WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT ON NATIONS, TRIBES, AND PUEBLOS.

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

SECTION 1. Fund one full-time Cross-Commissioning Research Analyst/Liaison within the Department of Public Safety to research avenues and barriers that exist in state cross-commissioning of tribal law enforcement in New Mexico and propose legislative recommendations.

In January 2023, Senate Bill 33 proposed that tribal and pueblo police officers and certain federal officers would be able to act as New Mexico peace officers. This bill failed.

In August 2023, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham convened a State Tribal Commissioning Force, consisting of sixteen members, including seven tribal leaders as well as leadership from various state agencies. The Task Force presented their findings to tribal leaders in September 2023 and pointed to concerns with jurisdiction, inconsistencies in application, funding needs, and law enforcement officer training. No legislation has been proposed since this time.

CROSS-COMMISSIONING ANALYS/LIAISON—DUTIES.

A. The position of Cross-Commissioning Analyst/Liaison is created within the Department of Public Safety to determine the effectiveness of and barriers to cross-commissioning agreements within the State of New Mexico;

B. The Cross-Commissioning Analyst/Liaison shall research the effectiveness of cross commissioning in investigating and solving MMIP cases;

C. The Cross-Commissioning Analyst/Liaison shall research the history of cross-commissioning agreements with tribal nations in New Mexico;

D. The Cross-Commissioning Analyst/Liaison shall conduct outreach with and survey state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies ("LEAs") throughout New Mexico to determine their needs and requests concerning cross-commissioning;

E. During their outreach, the Cross-Commissioning Analyst/Liaison shall audit all LEAs throughout the state to identify systems of desperate need;

F. The Cross-Commissioning Analyst/Liaison shall encourage tribal and non-tribal law enforcement agencies to reach out to facilitate connections and potential agreements with other law enforcement agencies;

G. The Cross-Commissioning Analyst/Liaison shall encourage law enforcement agencies to share their contact information with impacted families and other members of the public who may have concerns about open cases, existing agreements between law enforcement agencies, or other questions related to cross-commissioning;

H. The Cross-Commissioning Analyst/Liaison shall review models of cross-commissioning agreements with various tribes throughout the United States;

I. The Cross-Commissioning Analyst/Liaison shall review the role and effectiveness of public safety agreements and law enforcement memorandums of understanding between states and tribes;

J. The Cross-Commissioning Analyst/Liaison shall propose recommendations to the New Mexico Legislature for funding for cross-commissioning agreements; and

K. The Cross-Commissioning Analyst/Liaison shall propose recommendations based on their audit to the New Mexico Legislature regarding funding for resources for LEAs across the state.

SECTION 2. REPORTING.

Every year in April and October, the Department of Public Safety shall provide a report to the MMIP Task Force, any group that continues its work, and the legislative committee that studies Indian Affairs.

Each report shall include:

A. The work done, including whether any families were served, and the number of connections made between law enforcement agencies;

B. Feedback from families who choose to share it; and

C. Problems that have been identified, and recommended changes.

After receiving the information, the MMIP Task Force will review it and include relevant information in its annual report as well as future recommendations. The Task

Force shall not release any personal information contained in the Department of Public Safety's report.

SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION.

A. One hundred and thirty-three thousand dollars ($133,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Public Safety for expenditure in fiscal year 2027 to hire a full-time employee dedicated to making recommendations concerning tribal cross-commissioning agreements. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund.

DISCUSSION DRAFT

AMENDING LANGUAGE AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE INDIAN EDUCATION DIVISION OF THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO FUND MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS PEOPLES EDUCATION INITIATIVES.

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

SECTION 1. A new subsection of Chapter 22, Article 23A, Section 5 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read: "[NEW MATERIAL] F. In accordance with the rules of the department and after consulting with the Indian Education Advisory Council and determining the resources available within the department, the Assistant Secretary shall work with a contractor/ consultant to:

(1) Develop age-appropriate curriculum about Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples and prevention methods (K-12), which could include information for parents and guardians;

(2) Train school staff on warning signs of trafficking, grooming, and runaway risks;

(3) Meet with communities to assess existing LGBTQ+2S organizations, make changes, if necessary, and expand their presence throughout the state;

(4) Collaborate with the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department to meet with communities to understand barriers to career path options."

(5) Study ways to increase the number of Early College High Schools and dual credit programs with an emphasis on programming for indigenous students;

SECTION 2. Provide funding to the Indian Education Division of the Public Education Department to create a scholarship fund for indigenous students interested in the medical field and social work, with a preference for children of MMIP victims, to provide financial assistance for any uncovered costs.

SECTION 3. Provide funding to the Public Education Department to hire one contractor/consultant to accomplish the initiatives listed in Subsection F.

SECTION 4. REPORTING.

Every year in April and October, the Public Education Department shall provide a report to the MMIP Task Force, any group that continues its work, and the legislative committee that studies Indian Affairs.

Each report shall include:

A. The work done, including the number of families served, and other activities;

B. Feedback from families who choose to share it; and

C. Problems that have been found, and recommended changes.

After receiving the information, the MMIP Task Force will review it and include relevant information in its annual report as well as future recommendations. The Task Force shall not release any personal information contained in the Public Education Department's report.

SECTION 5. APPROPRIATIONS.

A. Fifty thousand dollars ($50,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the Public Education Department, Indian Education Division, for expenditure in fiscal year 2027 and subsequent fiscal years to establish a scholarship fund within the Indian Education Division. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund.

B. Fifty-nine dollars ($59,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the Public Education Department for expenditure in fiscal year 2027 to hire one contractor/consultant. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall revert to the general fund.

DISCUSSION DRAFT

REAUTHORIZING THE NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TASK FORCE AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE NMDOJ MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TASK FORCE TO CONTINUE TO HOST COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS.

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

SECTION 1. REAUTHORIZATION.

A. Pursuant to Senate Joint Memorial 2 (2024), the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples Task Force ("Task Force") was created to update the 2022 State Response Plan and provide ongoing legislative recommendations on how to address the missing and murdered indigenous peoples ("MMIP") crisis in New Mexico. In 2025, the Task Force published an annual report, and in 2026, it published its updated State Response Plan.

As of January 1, 2027, the Task Force has:

1. Hosted 10 Task Force meetings throughout the state, all of which were open to the public.

2. Impacted families, community members, and advocates provided public comments during all 10 meetings to help guide the Task Force and drive the legislative recommendations;

3. Coordinated with numerous agencies to host speaking events to educate both the Task Force and the public on topics such as the Turquoise Alert, funding for victims of crime, and demystifying DNA testing in Indian Country.

4. Proposed nine legislative recommendations during the 2027 Regular Session to address the MMIP crisis in New Mexico;

5. Supported families and survivors by providing the opportunity to meet with law enforcement agencies, including NMDOJ staff, direct service providers, and tribal leadership.

6. Hosted five community outreach events, which included resource fairs, for impacted families, which reached over 500 individuals.

7. Held two listening sessions during which impacted families had the opportunity to share their stories and raise concerns regarding the state's MMIP efforts, as well as connect with local community resources;

8. Collaborated with New Mexico Department of Public Safety and New Mexico law enforcement academy to facilitate training for law enforcement agencies across the state related to cultural competency and solving missing indigenous persons cases;

9. Engaged in ongoing conversations with the Indian Affairs Counsel from the New Mexico Department of Justice to discuss data collection and sharing, especially as it concerns the NMDOJ's MMIP Portal; and

10. Fully updated the 2022 State Response Plan, outlining steps that stakeholders — including impacted families and survivors, law enforcement agencies, nonprofits providing direct services to families and survivors, and community advocates — must take to address the crisis in New Mexico;

B. The Task Force, in its current iteration, has fulfilled the obligations laid out in Senate Joint Memorial 2, but more work is needed to combat the ongoing crisis of missing and murdered indigenous peoples in New Mexico, this Task Force shall continue but be reduced in size to no more than 15 members.

C. The Task Force shall continue to provide legislative recommendations related to the ongoing crisis of missing and murdered indigenous peoples. In making legislative recommendations, the Task Force should consist of:

1. no more than two representatives from the department of public safety, including the department's missing persons clearinghouse; the children, youth and families department; the office of the attorney general; the United States bureau of Indian affairs; the United States bureau of Indian affairs' office of justice services; the New Mexico sheriffs' association; and the municipal police departments of the cities of Albuquerque, Gallup, Farmington and Santa Fe;

2. no more than two legislators, including one senator and one representative nominated by the majority floor leaders of the house of representatives and senate and who serve on any of the following legislative interim committees: the committee that studies courts, corrections and justice, the committee that studies Indian affairs and the legislative health and human services committee;

3. no more than two pueblo representatives;

4. no more than one representative from the Jicarilla Apache Nation;

5. no more than one representative from the Mescalero Apache Tribe;

6. no more than one representative from the Navajo Nation office of the president and vice president, the Navajo Nation council or representatives of Navajo Nation chapter houses;

7. no more than two representatives from any of the following: an urban Indian center; a local nongovernmental organization that provides counseling services to indigenous people who have been victims of violence; a statewide or local nongovernmental organization that provides legal services to indigenous women and girls who have been victims of violence; a local nongovernmental organization that provides direct services to homeless individuals; or a local nongovernmental organization that provides direct services to survivors of sex trafficking;

8. no more than two representatives from other nonprofit organizations not mentioned in Subsection C of this resolving clause;

9. no more than two representatives who are indigenous survivors of violence or family members of an indigenous relative who has been a victim of violence; members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning and two-spirit plus community; and indigenous youth; and

10. no more than two representatives who have experience working as a tribal prosecutor, a tribal criminal investigator, a tribal emergency dispatcher, a tribal police chief or a tribal social worker or program director.

D. Task Force members will be appointed in accordance with existing member NMDOJ MMIP Task Force Bylaws.

SECTION 2. APPROPRIATIONS.

A. (Remaining amount) ($XX) is reauthorized from New Mexico Department of Justice's MMIP fund for expenditure in fiscal year 2027 to continue and further the work of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples Task Force. Any unexpended balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2027 shall be reauthorized to the following year.

B. Fifty thousand dollars ($50,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples Task Force, administratively housed in the New Mexico Department of Justice, for expenditure in fiscal year 2027 to continue and further the work of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples

Task Force. Any unexpended balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2027 shall be reauthorized to the following year.

DISCUSSION DRAFT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL INVESTIGATOR TO CREATE A POSITION FOR A MISSING AND UNIDENTIFIED HUMAN REMAINS INVESTIGATOR.

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

SECTION 1. Creating the position of a Missing and Unidentified Human Remains Investigator within the office of the Office of the Medical Investigator.

MISSING AND UNIDENTIFIED HUMAN REMAINS INVESTIGATOR—DUTIES—TRAINING.

A. The position of "Missing and Unidentified Human Remains Investigator" is created within the Office of the Medical Investigator.

B. The Office of the Medical Investigator shall employ one Missing and Unidentified Human Remains Investigator, who shall work in collaboration with local, state, federal and tribal law enforcement agencies on missing and murdered indigenous persons cases.

C. The Missing and Unidentified Human Remains Investigator shall:

1. Review entries of missing indigenous people in the national databases, including the national crime information center of the United States;

2. Compile reports of pending missing indigenous persons cases;

3. Identify unclaimed and unidentified human remains;

4. Coordinate with Indian Affairs Counsel at the New Mexico Department of Justice to relay information to the families of missing peoples;

5. Collaborate with other state and national missing persons programs that identify missing persons and unidentified remains, including the national missing and unidentified persons system;

6. Report cases of unidentified remains believed to be young people to the national center for missing and exploited children, and work with the center on those cases as early as possible; and

7. Quarterly publish the clearance rate of missing indigenous persons cases on the website for the office;

D. The Missing and Unidentified Human Remains Investigator shall complete cultural competency and trauma-informed investigation training relevant to indigenous cultures.

SECTION 2. REPORTING

Every year in April and October, the Office of the Medical Investigator shall provide a report to the MMIP Task Force, any group that continues its work, and the legislative committee that studies Indian Affairs.

Each report shall include:

A. The work done including the number of remains identified and case closures and other activities;

B. Feedback from families who choose to share it; and

C. Problems that have been found, as well as recommended changes.

After receiving the information, the MMIP Task Force will review it and include relevant information in its annual report as well as future recommendations. The Task Force shall not release any personal information contained in the Office of the Medical Investigator's report.

SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION.

A. Seventy-eight thousand dollars ($78,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the Office of the Medical Examiner for expenditure in fiscal year 2027 and subsequent fiscal years to employ one full-time Missing and Unidentified Human Remains Investigator to provide support services. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund.

DISCUSSION DRAFT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE NEW MEXICO HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION TO FURTHER THE WORK OF ADDRESSING THE MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS PEOPLES CRISIS.

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

SECTION 1. Fund two full-time paraprofessionals within the New Mexico Health Care Administration, who are responsible for engaging in community outreach and creating programming to address the underlying causes of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples Crisis ("MMIP").

MMIP SOCIAL WORKERS—DUTIES.

A. MMIP Social Workers shall:

1. Create a training program for grief community facilitators;

2. Create a "buddy check in" program where youth groups and other community organizations check in with elders, those with disabilities, and other vulnerable individuals in their communities; there will be a training component to this that will focus on identifying elder abuse and exploitation and steps to take when abuse is suspected;

3. Develop an adult intergenerational training program, reviewing Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples prevention efforts and highlighting abusive behaviors to be aware of, with a specific focus on human trafficking, and a related media campaign.

4. Meet with tribal communities to identify needs of LGBTQ+2S individuals within the community, and developing programs designed to address their needs;

5. Work with New Mexico Higher Education Department and the Department of Workplace Solutions to coordinate meetings with communities in order to better understand barriers to career path options;

6. Work with the New Mexico Office of Housing to develop additional housing options and potential new programs for indigenous survivors of human trafficking; and

7. Set up quarterly meeting space for any interested law enforcement to come and informally share information, best practices, and challenges with one

another. Location would rotate around the state. MMIP Social Workers would be responsible for securing the location, sending out invitations to regional law enforcement agencies, and supplying coffee and light snacks. Should attendees have any information or questions relevant for the MMIP Task Force, the MMIP Social Workers would communicate that back to the Task Force.

SECTION 2. REPORTING

Every year in April and October, the Health Care Administration shall provide a report to the MMIP Task Force, any group that continues its work, and the legislative committee that studies Indian Affairs.

Each report shall include:

A. The work done including the number of programs created and the status of each program; and

B. Problems that have been found, as well as recommended changes.

After receiving the information, the MMIP Task Force will review it and include relevant information in its annual report as well as future recommendations. The Task Force shall not release any personal information contained in the Health Care Administration's report.

SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION.

A. One-hundred and eighty-eight thousand dollars ($188,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the Health Care Authority for expenditure in fiscal year 2027 for the New Mexico Department of Justice to hire two social workers who will create programming to continue to address the issues faced by indigenous peoples. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund.

DISCUSSION DRAFT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO CONTINUE TRAININGS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES THROUGHOUT THE STATE FOR MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS PEOPLES CASES.

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

SECTION 1. The Department of Public Safety ("DPS"), working with the New Mexico Law Enforcement Standards and Training Council, shall develop and offer training on missing and murdered Indigenous peoples cases, human trafficking, and trauma-informed, culturally responsive practices to state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies, and shall seek to have the training approved for in-service credit.

SECTION 2. DPS shall also use these funds to:

A. Collaborate with New Mexico Department of Justice and meet with law enforcement agencies throughout the state to collect information regarding their equipment and resource needs in order to be better equipped to handle MMIP cases, then draft federal and state legislation to secure necessary funding.

B. Reimburse employees who travel to gather information and to conduct these trainings.

C. Pay for the printing, publication, and/or dissemination of training materials, and for trainings advertisements.

Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall revert to the general fund.

SECTION 3. Hire at least two MMIP Victim/Family Advocates within the Department of Public Safety to serve as the bridge between a grieving or affected family and the police investigation team during major, traumatic incidents.

MMIP VICTIM/FAMILY ADVOCATES—DUTIES.

A. MMIP Victim/Family Advocates shall initiate contact with impacted families immediately after the reporting law enforcement agency contacts DPS.

B. MMIP Victim/Family Advocates shall create resources that describe their roles and what information they can and can't share. They will disseminate these resources when they are assigned to a family; and

C. MMIP Victim/Family Advocates are prohibited from releasing confidential information.

SECTION 4. REPORTING.

Every year in April and October, the Department of Public Safety shall provide a report to the MMIP Task Force, any group that continues its work, and the legislative committee that studies Indian Affairs.

Each report shall include:

A. The work done, including the number of cases, families served, and other activities;

B. Results for families, including how quickly families were contacted and whether they received the support or answers they needed;

C. Feedback from families who choose to share it; and

D. Problems that have been found, and recommended changes.

After receiving the information, the MMIP Task Force will review it and include relevant information in its annual report as well as future recommendations. The Task Force shall not release any personal information contained in the Department of Public Safety's report.

SECTION 5. APPROPRIATIONS.

A. Fifteen thousand dollars ($15,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the New Mexico Department of Public Safety for expenditure in fiscal year 2027 to continue the law enforcement training and efforts that have already been jointly instituted by the New Mexico Department of Public Safety and the New Mexico Department of Justice.

B. One hundred and eighty-seven thousand dollars ($187,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Public Safety for expenditure in fiscal year 2027 and subsequent fiscal years to employ two full-time MMIP Family/Victim Advocates. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund.

DISCUSSION DRAFT

CREATING A NEW MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS PEOPLES GRANT WITHIN THE CRIME VICTIM REPARATIONS COMMISSION AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE CRIME VICTIM REPARATIONS COMMISSION TO FUND ONE FULL-TIME GRANT ADMINISTRATOR.

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

SECTION 1. Create a new Families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples Grant within the Crime Victim Reparations Commission accessible to the families of those who have been missing or murdered.

The families of missing or murdered Indigenous peoples do not currently qualify for crime victim reparations funds under the Crime Victims Reparation Act. The Act assists victims of violent crime by reimbursing certain expenses related to the crime and by making distributions of federal grants for victim assistance available. Senate Bill 414 (2023) was introduced to modify the language in Section 31-22-7 NMSA 1978. This bill failed to pass.

Indigenous survivors and their family members do not currently fall under the qualifying guidelines of the Crime Victims Reparation Act and cannot apply for Victims of Crime Act Emergency Assistance Funding ("EAF") pursuant to N.M. Admin. Code § 10.40.3.8. EAF is limited to providing immediate services to victims when no other resources are available and are not intended to be a substitute for victims' compensation. EAF are available once in a lifetime and cannot exceed $3,000.

Family members can currently apply for missing persons funding from the Crime Victim Reparations Commission, channeled through the Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women, however, such funding is not recurring.

The Families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples Grant will allow impacted families to apply for financial and support services, without concern for the uncertainty in Crime Victim Reparation Commission funds.

SECTION 2. Fund one full-time Families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples Grant Administrator position within the Crime Victim Reparation Commission.

GRANT ADMINISTRATOR—DUTIES—TRAINING.

A. The position of Grant Administrator for the Families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples Grant is created within the office of the Crime Victim Reparation Commission;

B. The Grant Administrator shall manage and review applications/distributions of funds specifically for the impacted families of missing and murdered indigenous peoples applying to the Families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples Grant;

C. The Grant Administrator shall manage and review applications/distributions of funds specifically for the impacted families of missing and murdered indigenous peoples collected through the state's new MMIP license plate campaign;

D. The Grant Administrator shall engage in community outreach efforts to directly address the barrier families face accessing more funds when searching for loved ones;

SECTION 3. REPORTING.

Every year in April and October, the Crime Victim Reparations Commission shall provide a report to the MMIP Task Force, any group that continues its work, and the legislative committee that studies Indian Affairs.

Each report shall include:

A. The work done, including the number of cases, families served, and other activities;

B. Results for families, including how quickly families were contacted and whether they received the support or answers they needed;

C. Feedback from families who choose to share it; and

D. Problems that have been found, and recommended changes.

After receiving the information, the MMIP Task Force will review it and include relevant information in its annual report as well as future recommendations. The Task Force shall not release any personal information contained in the Crime Victim Reparations Commission's report.

SECTION 4. APPROPRIATIONS.

A. One hundred thousand dollars ($100,000) is appropriated from the general fund for expenditure in fiscal year 2027 to create a Families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples Grant. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund.

B. One hundred and five thousand dollars ($105,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the Crime Victims Reparation Commission for expenditure in fiscal year 2027 and subsequent fiscal years to employ one full-time Grant Administrator. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund.

DISCUSSION DRAFT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; ENACTING A NEW SECTION OF CHAPTER 66, ARTICLE 3 NMSA 1978 TO PROVIDE FOR A MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS PEOPLES LICENSE PLATES; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

SECTION 1. A new section of Chapter 66, Article 3 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read: "SPECIAL MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS PEOPLES REGISTRATION PLATE.

A. The division shall issue a standardized special registration plate with a logo as specified in Section 66-3-424 NMSA 1978 acknowledging Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples.

B. In consultation with the New Mexico Department of Justice Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples Task Force, the Division must adopt a suitable plate design by a native artist that includes a red handprint to one side and reads "Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples" or "MMIP."

C. For a fee of thirty-five dollars ($35.00), which is in addition to the regular motor vehicle registration fees, the owner of a vehicle may apply for issuance of a special MMIP awareness registration plate. The owner shall apply for and pay the fee each year to retain and renew the special MMIP awareness registration plate.

D. Revenue from the additional fee for a special MMIP awareness registration plate shall be distributed as follows:

    1. Ten dollars ($10.00) of the additional fee collected shall be retained by and is appropriated to the department to defray the cost of making and issuing the special registration plate with an MMIP awareness logo; and

    2. Twenty-five dollars ($25.00) of the additional fee shall be distributed to and is appropriated to the Crime Victims Reparation Commission for the purpose of supplementing the Families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples Grant managed by CVRC. The Commission shall not use money in the fund for the cost of administering the fund. Unspent funds shall be retained and not revert.

E. Donations above the $35 fee or separate from the fee altogether shall be deposited into the fund.

DISCUSSION DRAFT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE NEW MEXICO SUPREME COURT FOR THE TRIBAL-STATE JUDICIAL CONSORTIUM TO ASSIST TRIBAL COURTS WITH TRAINING PROGRAMS.

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

SECTION 1. The New Mexico Supreme Court shall create training courses on the following topics. These trainings will be offered for free to Tribal court personnel. The intention is to share the resources and perspective of the New Mexico Supreme Court with Tribal Courts should Tribal Court personnel think they may be beneficial. The courses would be optional for Tribal Courts to use, but the New Mexico Supreme Court shall engage in sufficient outreach regarding their existence so that Tribal Courts would know of their existence and what outcomes they could expect if they used them.

A. Developing individual safety protocols to keep court staff, parties, and other occupants of a courthouse safe during an emergency;

B. Advancing best practices training for court personnel on topics identified by Tribal Courts;

C. Identifying useful court equipment and technology and opportunities for obtaining what is needed; and

D. Issue-spotting and information sharing in cross-jurisdictional cases. This training would facilitate cross-court collaboration in light of the frequency in which MMIP situations cross jurisdictional boundaries, and it would provide tribal courts with best practices for identifying fact patterns in protective order cases more or less likely to escalate into major crimes.

SECTION 2. The New Mexico Supreme Court Tribal-State Judicial Consortium shall use these funds to:

1. Reimburse employees who travel to gather information; and

2. Pay for the printing, publication, and/or dissemination of training materials, and for training advertising.

SECTION 3. REPORTING.

Every year in April and October, the New Mexico Supreme Court shall provide a report to the MMIP Task Force, any group that continues its work, and the legislative committee that studies Indian Affairs.

Each report shall include:

A. The work done, including the number of trainings created, the number of trainings provided, location of trainings, the number of attendees, feedback given by participants, and other activities;

B. Tribal courts' needs identified; and

C. Problems that have been found, and recommended changes.

After receiving the reports, the MMIP Task Force will review the report and provide relevant information in its annual report and future recommendations. The Task Force shall not release any personal information contained in the New Mexico Supreme Court's report.

SECTION 4. APPROPRIATIONS.

A. Fifteen thousand ($15,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the New Mexico Supreme Court, Tribal-State Judicial Consortium for expenditure in fiscal year 2027 to meet with and develop training programs for tribal courts within the exterior bounds of the State of New Mexico. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund.

B. Five thousand dollars ($5,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the New Mexico Supreme Court, Tribal-State Judicial Consortium for expenditure in fiscal year 2027 and subsequent fiscal years to reimburse costs associated with these training programs.

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO CREATE THE NEW MEXICO OFFICE OF MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS RELATIVES.

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

SECTION 1: The New Mexico Office of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives is created and is administratively attached to the Department of Indian Affairs. The Office shall maintain autonomy over the office's budget and any decisions the office may take.

SECTION 2: DEFINITIONS

As used in the [New Mexico Office of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives Act]:

A. "commission" means the MMIR commission;

B. "department" means the Indian affairs department;

C. "director" means the director of the office;

D. "family member" means a relative of a missing or murdered Indigenous person, including a relative by blood, marriage, adoption, or extended or traditional kinship as recognized by the person's family or Tribal nation, tribe or pueblo, or a person the family designates as its representative;

E. "family navigator" means an employee of the office who assists family members in obtaining case information and services and who is not a law enforcement officer;

F. "family point of contact of last resort" means the office's role in assigning a family navigator to a family when no agency has designated a family contact, the designated contact fails to respond within [ten] business days or jurisdiction over the case is disputed;

G. "fund" means the missing and murdered Indigenous relatives fund;

H. "Tribal nation, tribe or pueblo" means a federally recognized Tribal nation, tribe or pueblo;

I. "Indigenous person" means a person who is an enrolled member of, or eligible for enrollment in, a Tribal nation, tribe or pueblo, whether or not located in New

Mexico or traditional kinship as recognized by the person's family or Tribal nation, tribe or pueblo, or a person the family designates as its representative;

J. "law enforcement agency" has the meaning given in [the Missing Persons Information and Reporting Act];

K. "law enforcement report" means an incident, missing person or investigative report prepared by a law enforcement agency concerning a missing or murdered Indigenous person;

L. "missing or murdered Indigenous person" means an Indigenous person who has been reported missing to a law enforcement agency, or whose death is being investigated, or has been determined, as a homicide, undetermined, or suspicious death;

M. "office" means the New Mexico office of missing and murdered Indigenous relatives;

N. "portal" means the public website maintained by the office, [or the attorney general's missing and murdered Indigenous peoples portal,] that provides information on missing and murdered Indigenous persons;

O. "service provider" means a person or organization that provides services to family members of missing or murdered Indigenous persons using money provided by the office; and

P. "state agency" means an executive department, agency, board, commission or office of the state, including the department of public safety and the office of the medical investigator, but does not include a Tribal nation, tribe or pueblo or an agency of the United States.

SECTION 3: OFFICE CREATED.

The head of the office is the executive director, who shall be appointed by a vote of at least two-thirds of the members of the commission. The commission shall appoint the director as soon as practicable after the commission is seated. At the time of appointment, the director shall have at least five years of documented professional experience working with Indigenous persons, Tribal nations, tribes or pueblos and in one or more of the following: victim services, advocacy for families of missing or murdered persons, criminal justice, public health or public administration, and demonstrated experience working with families of missing or murdered Indigenous persons. The director is an exempt state employee and serves until removed by the commission. The commission may remove the director only for malfeasance, misfeasance, neglect of duty

or abuse of office, by a vote of at least two-thirds of its members at a public meeting, after notice and an opportunity for the director to be heard. The commission shall evaluate the director's performance annually in writing. The director shall oversee the office and assign and distribute its work.

SECTION 4: OFFICE DUTIES AND PILLARS FOR THE FIRST YEAR:.

A. The New Mexico Office of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples shall:

1. House the MMIP Director, who shall employ staff as necessary to carry out the duties of the office, within available appropriations, in accordance with the Personnel Act. The office shall employ family navigators to serve families in each region of the state.
2. Family & Survivor Support: Establish one Family Navigator (Navigators are- non-law enforcement staff who have a proven history of working within Native communities) within the Northwest Region and one Family Navigator within the Central Region of New Mexico. Duties:
    i. Relay case status
    ii. Explain what can not be disclosed and why
    iii. Connect families to victim services
    iv. Accompany families to meetings with agencies when possible
3. Strategic Planning & Training: Building model protocols and coordination systems between state and local law enforcement and the MMIR Office. Building relationships for future MOU's with tribes, nations, and pueblos.
4. Policy & Infrastructure Sustainability: Drafting state legislation to mandate better data-sharing and securing permanent, long-term agency funding.
5. Public Awareness & Media Accountability: Partnering with media outlets to counter historic biases in reporting and building public-facing portals for active cases.

B. Year-one commitments to make:

1. Seat the commission within [6] months of the effective date.
2. Hire the director within [9] months.
3. Hire navigators by the end of the first year.
4. Begin tribal protocols with nations, pueblos and tribes.
5. Reporting

SECTION 5: SELECTION COMMITTEE—MMIP COMMISSION.

A. The New Mexico Office of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples selection committee will consist of the MMIP Commission. The Commission will consist of 9 members, including:

1. Two MMIP family members
2. Two MMIR advocates
3. One representative from the All Pueblo Council of Governors, 1 Apache representative, and 1 Navajo Nation rep
4. One representative from the state
5. One representative from law enforcement

B. MMIR Commission Members shall be appointed in the following ways:

1. MMIR family members, advocate nominees, and Tribal representatives will be appointed by the current MMIP taskforce after a publicly held meeting, where members of the public are given an opportunity to weigh in on nominees.
2. Current MMIP Task Force members will consult with the All Pueblo Council of Governors, Jicarilla Apache Nation/ Mescalero Apache Tribe/Fort Sill Apache Tribe and Navajo Nation to find representatives for the Commission.

C. An "MMIP family member" is a relative of a missing or murdered Indigenous person. An "MMIP" advocate is a representative of a Native-led organization working on MMIP.

D. The two advocate seats can't be held by people from the same organization; the same rule applies to advocates on the commission.

SECTION 6: MMIP COMMISSION—DUTIES.

A. Hire the director;

B. Hold monthly public meetings;

C. Recommend priorities of the Office; and

D. Advise on legislative recommendations.

SECTION 7. ANNUAL REPORT.

By September 1 of each year, beginning in 2028, the office shall submit to the interim Indian affairs committee, the legislative finance committee, the legislative health and human services committee, the governor and the Tribal nations, tribes and pueblos of New Mexico, and shall post on its website, a report on the office's services during the previous fiscal year, including:

A. the number of families served;

B. the number of contacts made;

C. the number of complaints received and resolved; agency response rates;

D. the number of grants awarded and money spent; and donors and amounts received; and

E. The report may be combined with performance reporting required under the Accountability in Government Act.

SECTION 8. TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION.

A. The Director shall ensure that office staff are trained in:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. Etc.

B. The Director shall develop procedures for the training and certification of appropriate staff.

C. An officer, employee or other representative of the office shall not investigate any complaint filed with the office unless that person is certified by the office."

SECTION 9. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.

A. An employee, contractor or commissioner of the office shall disclose in writing any financial or organizational relationship with a family member or organization that applies for or receives funds from the office.

B. A person who discloses a relationship under Subsection A shall not participate in any decision to award funds to, or evaluate the work of, that family member or organization. Each recusal shall be recorded in writing.

C. Being a family member of a missing or murdered Indigenous person, or being employed by or affiliated with an Tribal nation, tribe or pueblo or an organization serving families of missing or murdered Indigenous persons, does not by itself create a conflict of interest and does not make a person or organization ineligible to:

1. be employed by, contract with or serve on the commission of the office; or

2. apply for or receive grants or family support from the office.

D. Grants shall be awarded through a competitive process with written criteria. Family support shall be provided under the same eligibility rules for all families, including family members who are employees, contractors or commissioners of the office.

E. Employees, contractors and commissioners of the office are subject to the Governmental Conduct Act and the Gift Act.

SECTION 10. LAW ENFORCEMENT AGREEMENTS.

Upon request by the Office, law enforcement agencies shall share with the office all law enforcement reports involving _____.

State agencies shall answer the office's data requests within 30 days and respond in writing to commission recommendations within 90 days. Tribal participation stays voluntary.

SECTION 11. CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION.

A. The office shall maintain the confidentiality of all case records, as any information gathered in the course of _____. Open missing person case records are exempt from public inspection and copying pursuant to (cite IPRA rule).

SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION.

A. The New Mexico MMIP Office will be funded via its own line in the General Appropriation Act and a nonreverting MMIP fund.

B. The Office shall be able to accept gifts, grants and donations from public and private sources into the fund, with safeguards: every donor and amount disclosed in the annual report; no donations from anyone with business before the office or a case it is reviewing; commission approval for gifts above a set amount; and donations supplement state funding, they can't replace the appropriation or be the only funding for a permanent position. No commissioner, selection panel member or employee of the office shall participate in any decision concerning a donation, grant or contract involving a person or organization with which the member or employee has a financial or organizational relationship. Donations shall not be designated for a specific family or case, shall not be accepted anonymously and shall be reported by donor and amount in the office's annual report. Commissioners and employees are subject to the Governmental Conduct Act and the Gift Act.

SECTION 13. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The effective date of the provisions of this act is July 1, 2027.