

**2011 APPROVED
WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE
for the
INDIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Membership

Rep. James Roger Madalena, Co-Chair
Sen. John Pinto, Co-Chair
Sen. Rod Adair
Rep. Ray Begaye
Rep. Sandra D. Jeff
Sen. Lynda M. Lovejoy
Rep. Patricia A. Lundstrom

Sen. Richard C. Martinez
Sen. George K. Munoz
Rep. Jane E. Powdrell-Culbert
Sen. Nancy Rodriguez
Sen. John C. Ryan
Rep. James E. Smith

Advisory Members

Rep. Eliseo Lee Alcon
Rep. Ernest H. Chavez
Sen. Eric G. Griego
Sen. Stuart Ingle
Sen. Timothy Z. Jennings

Rep. Ben Lujan
Rep. Antonio "Moe" Maestas
Rep. Debbie A. Rodella
Rep. Nick L. Salazar
Sen. William E. Sharer

Work Plan

The Indian Affairs Committee (IAC) was again created by the New Mexico Legislative Council to address issues that affect Native Americans in New Mexico. The IAC has existed since 1989 as a result of post-session New Mexico Legislative Council action each year. In view of the fact that the committee's work addresses issues relating principally to New Mexico's Native American population, the committee strives to conduct its meetings in locations that are accessible to the state's tribal members and their leaders. The committee views its meetings as an essential way of relating the work of the legislature to this segment of its constituency. Moreover, meeting at the various nations, tribes and pueblos facilitates government-to-government cooperation.

Because the issues that affect Native Americans transcend any one subject matter, the committee will coordinate, as needed, with other committees regarding presentations of subject matters of common concern.

The committee proposes to explore and discuss the topics in each major issue area affecting Native Americans during the 2011 interim, as follows:

A. State-Tribal Relations:

1. the recent developments and implications of Mount Taylor being designated a traditional and cultural property;
2. the coordinated multi-agency five-year plan to address uranium legacy and

cleanup of abandoned uranium mining and milling sites led by the federal Environmental Protection Agency;

3. the recent development of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission granting Hydro Resources Inc. a license to mine near Church Rock and Crownpoint;

4. the settlement of state income tax refund claims from the Native American Veterans' Income Tax Settlement Fund;

5. the feasibility of locating a veterans' memorial honoring New Mexico's Native American veterans in Santa Fe pursuant to HM 25;

6. the feasibility and requirements for the legislature to transfer ownership and control of the lands owned or controlled by the state in the Jemez State Monument heritage area to the Pueblo of Jemez pursuant to HJM 7;

7. the study of the process to establish recognition of Indian nations, tribes and pueblos in New Mexico; and

8. the demographic results for Native Americans in the 2010 census.

B. Health:

1. health care for Native Americans and in Native American communities;

2. statewide Native American health care reform planning pursuant to HJM 40;
and

3. the implementation of a statewide clearinghouse for Native American suicide prevention and culturally based suicide prevention initiatives for Native Americans as mandated by SB 417.

C. Courts and Corrections:

1. the increase in hate crimes against Native Americans in recent years;

2. the implications of *Garcia v. Gutierrez*, 2009-NMSC-044, in state and tribal jurisdiction on domestic matters;

3. implementation of the increased penalties pursuant to the Indian Arts and Crafts Sales Act;

4. the disproportionate incarceration of Native Americans in relation to the population; and

5. establishment of a public defender's office in Gallup.

D. Economic Development in Indian Country:

1. capital outlay, including tracking the expenditure of allocated funds, alternative funding sources and coordination with the Navajo Nation;

2. the funding of projects from the Tribal Infrastructure Project Fund, including projections of allocated amounts pursuant to Section 7-27-10.1 NMSA 1978; and

3. the funding of Indian water rights settlements, including the Navajo, Aamodt Taos Pueblo and Abeyta Indian water rights settlements, including the use of severance tax bonding capacity.

E. Education:

1. the implementation of the Indian Education Act and the improvement of Native American education, including performance and effectiveness pursuant to SM 52;

2. the study of Indian education impact aid money pursuant to SJM 35;

3. the support for tribal language survival pursuant to SJM 24; and

4. the feasibility of providing lottery scholarships to otherwise eligible students who attend tribal colleges pursuant to HM 72.

2011 Approved Meeting Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
June 13	State Capitol, Santa Fe
July 21	Gallup
July 22	Pueblo of Zuni
August 17	Truth or Consequences
August 18	Pueblo of Acoma
August 19	Tohajiilee Chapter
October 6	Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute
October 7	Pueblo of Sandia
November 1	Pueblo of Santa Clara
November 2	State Capitol, Santa Fe