

RESOLUTION

ALL PUEBLO COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

RESOLUTION NO. APCG 2018-XX

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NEW NATIVE AMERICAN VOTING TASK FORCE (NAVTF) NEW MEXICO SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors (APCG) is comprised of the Pueblos of Acoma, Cochiti, Isleta, Jemez, Nambe, Ohkay Owingeh, Picuris, Pojoaque, Sandia, San Felipe, San Ildefonso, Santa Ana, Santa Clara, Santo Domingo, Taos, Tesuque, Zia, and Zuni and one Pueblo in Texas, Ysleta del Sur, each having the sovereign authority to govern their own affairs; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the APCG is to advocate, foster, protect and encourage the social, cultural and traditional well-being of the Pueblo Nations; and

WHEREAS, through their inherent and sovereign rights, the APCG will promote the language, health, economic, cultural and natural resources, civil and educational advancement of all Pueblo people; and

WHEREAS, the 20 Pueblos possess inherent government authority and sovereignty over their lands and the protection of our language, culture and tradition; and

WHEREAS, the Native American Voting Task Force (NAVTF) was formed by the Office of the New Mexico Secretary of State for the purpose of identifying and recommending avenues to increase voter registration and election participation for New Mexico's Twenty-Three Tribes; and

WHEREAS, NAVTF has identified core objectives to support this effort, including increasing voter participation in Native American communities through increasing voter outreach, voter education, establishing adequate early voting sites, providing election documentation in NM Native American languages, proposing statutory amendments on Native American voting rights, reducing inconsistencies in the voting process, improving voting venues, advocating to address the digital divide, re-districting; and

WHEREAS, historically Native American populations have faced many barriers to voting which have left a lasting legacy evidenced by lower Native American voter turnout, ballot access, precinct development, polling locations, early voting sites; and

WHEREAS, the ten member task force of NAVTF is to promulgate Native American voting rights under the Federal Voting Right Act, Sec. 203 and codified New Mexico statutes pertaining to Native American voting and elections issues; and

WHEREAS, Miguel Trujillo, a veteran from Isleta and Laguna Pueblos, in 1948 won a federal lawsuit attaining the legal civil rights for Native Americans in New Mexico giving them the right to vote in New Mexico elections and enhance the voting rights of New Mexico tribes for the generations of now to include future generations; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the All Pueblo Council of Governors hereby supports the Secretary of State's Native American Voting Task Force efforts to promote, engage and empower New Mexico tribes through such an organization; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the All Pueblo Council of Governors hereby urges the New Mexico Legislature and local county governments to work with NAVTF to allow opportunities for New Mexico Tribes for betterment of voting rights of tribal members and New Mexico Native American communities; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the Officers of the All Pueblo Council of Governors are expressly authorized to take any and all steps necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned Officials of the All Pueblo Council of Governors hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. APCG 2018-XX was considered and adopted at a duly called council meeting held on the 19th day of June 2018, and at which a quorum was present and the same was approved a vote of _____ in favor, _____ against, _____ abstain, and ____ absent.

ALL PUEBLO COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

By: _____
APCG Chairman E. Paul Torres

ATTEST:

Governor Val Panteah Sr., APCG Secretary