

Study Committee on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples

PURPOSE: To: (1) conduct a comprehensive study to determine how this State can reduce and end violence against indigenous peoples in this State; (2) continue to work with law enforcement to track and collect data on violence against indigenous peoples, including data on missing and murdered indigenous peoples; (3) continue to review policies and practices that impact violence against indigenous peoples, such as child welfare policies and practices; (4) continue to review prosecutorial trends and practices relating to crimes of gender violence against indigenous peoples; (5) continue to gather data on the prevalence and contextual characteristics of violence against indigenous peoples, including variations by gender, age and sexual identity; (6) propose measures to ensure access to culturally appropriate victim services for indigenous peoples who have been victims of violence; (7) gather information to understand the lived experiences among indigenous peoples surrounding missing and murdered indigenous peoples in an effort to ensure that policy recommendations are culturally accurate; (8) propose legislation to address issues identified by the Study Committee and submit a report regarding the Study Committee's activities and recommendations for administrative or legislative action on or before December 1, 2022, December 1, 2023 and December 1, 2024 to the Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives and provide a copy of these reports to the Secretary of State.

MEMBERSHIP:

House Three members of the House of Representatives who are of indigenous descent or who attend meetings and actively work on issues relating to indigenous peoples, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. One member shall be selected by the Committee by majority vote to serve as Chair.

Walter Blackman, Jennifer Jermaine (Vice Chair), Myron Tsosie

Senate Three members of the Senate who are of indigenous descent or who attend meetings and actively work on issues relating to indigenous peoples, appointed by the President of the Senate. One member shall be selected by the Committee by majority vote to serve as Vice Chair.

Sally Ann Gonzales, Jamescita Peshlakai (Vice Chair), Victoria Steele

Other One representative of a Tribal government, appointed by the President of the Senate:

Ms. Monica Antone, Gila River Tribal Council

The Director of the Department of Public Safety or the Director's designee:

Mr. Paul Etnire, Department of Public Safety

The Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee:

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Mr. Blaine Gadow, Assistant Attorney General

One Sheriff from a county with a population of eight hundred fifty thousand persons or more, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Mr. Dimitri Whelan Gonzalez, Lieutenant-Maricopa County Major Crimes Division

One member who works with the Phoenix or Tucson Indian Center, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Ms. Patti Hibbeler, CEO Phoenix Indian Center

One victim advocate, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Ms. April Ignacio, Tohono O'odham

One County Attorney, or the County Attorney's designee, from a county with a population of eight hundred fifty thousand persons or more, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Mr. Jonathan Mosher, Chief Criminal Deputy Pima County Attorney's Office

One social worker who works with a Tribal, statewide or local organization that provides services to indigenous peoples, appointed by the President of the Senate:

Ms. Debbie Nez-Manuel

One member who works in the Phoenix area Indian Health Services, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Ms. Kim Russell, Indian Health Services

One Attorney General or judge from a tribal jurisdiction:

Vacant

Notes: The study committee shall meet quarterly or more frequently as the Chairperson deems necessary.

CONTACT: Michael Madden, Senate Research Staff, Ahjahna Graham, House Research Staff

REPORT DATE: 11/01/20, 12/01/22, 12/01/23, 12/01/24

EXPIRATION DATE: 09/30/2025

STATUTORY CITE: Laws 2019, Chapter 232; Laws 2021, Chapter 405