

New Mexico Legislative sessions are underway!



DID YOU KNOW?

From: Pueblo of Isleta Governor's Office



Pueblo of Isleta has been actively engaged this year, tracking the 1,000+ bills to ensure that the Pueblo's interests are advanced through State legislation, while also protected from State overreach. The Governor's Office and Isleta program directors have been busy testifying in legislative committees, drafting and proposing amendments, and advocating for a state budget that properly funds the Pueblo's programs. The Tribal Council and Governor met with state legislators at the Capitol on Feb 3, 2023. The Governor also met with NM Governor Lujan Grisham on Feb 17, 2023, to discuss shared legislative priorities.

We encourage your individual advocacy in support of the bills that would benefit the Pueblo and in opposition of those that are to the Pueblo's detriment. The below list provides the position of Isleta leadership on the bills that have been deemed most critical to the Pueblo. Please contact your state representative and senator and tell them your position. You can find the contact information for the legislator that represents your district here:

https://www.nmlegis.gov/members/find_my_legislator



The Isleta Governor **SUPPORTS** the following appropriations bills because they would direct funding to Isleta programs, either through competitive grants or direct allocations to Isleta departments.



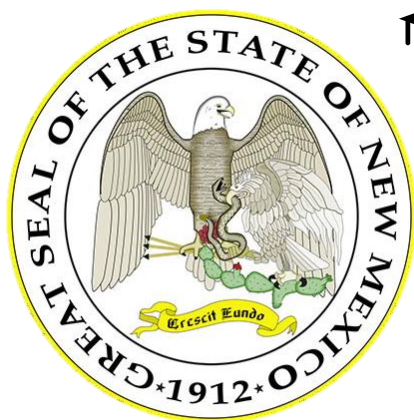
BILL NAME AND SUMMARY



HB 49 - County and Tribal Health Councils Funding: Appropriation to fund local health Councils, in which Isleta could elect to participate



HB 140 - Tribal Education Trust Fund: Requires annual distributions directly to Tribal Departments of Education



HB 147 - Indian Education Fund Distributions: Requires annual distributions directly to Tribal Departments of Education



HB 148 - Early Childhood Dept. Tribal Agreement: Requires State agreements with and State funding to Tribal early childhood education programs



HB 149 - Public Education Dept. Native American Funding: Improves State funding distribution formula for Tribal Departments of Education



HB 280 - American Indian Ed Tech Assistance Centers: Directs funding to improve technical educational for Tribal Members



SB 4 - Healthy Universal School Meals: Requires free lunch and breakfast in charter and public school and permits participation by BIE schools, such as Isleta Elementary School



SB 8 - Geothermal Resources Development: Authorizes grants and loans to support geothermal energy development by Tribes



SB 9 - Create Legacy Permanent Funds: Directs funding to competitive natural resources and recreation grants, which Isleta would be eligible to seek



SB 25 - Federal Infrastructure Matching Fund: Leverages federal infrastructure dollars by directing funds to Tribes to be used as match-funding



SB 27 - Rural Infrastructure Crisis Response Act: Creates an emergency fund to repair/replace critical infrastructure damaged in crisis events, including for Tribes



SB 57 - Making a Transfer to the Water Trust Fund: Directs funding toward water infrastructure, including for Tribes



SB 195 - Water Protection Permanent Fund: Directs funding toward water infrastructure, including for Tribal projects



SB 214 - Rural Libraries Endowment Fund: Directs funding to a grant program for rural libraries, in which Isleta would be eligible to participate



SB 288 - Law Enforcement Fund Distribution: Directs funding to local law enforcement agencies, including Tribal law enforcement



SB 353 - NM Grown Produce for Senior Meals: Directs funding to support improved health-meal access for senior citizens, including through Tribal programs



SB 354 - Senior Farmers' Market Nutritional Program: Directs funding to support improved health-meal access for senior citizens, including through Tribal programs



SB 358 - Healthy Food Financing: Authorizes State grants and loans to support better healthy food access in rural areas, including for Tribes



SB 414 - Indigenous People Crime Victim Reparations: Designates reparations eligibility to missing or murdered indigenous persons, or their dependents





HB 464 - Improve Educational Outcomes: Directs funds to the state public education department and institutions of higher education, including tribal college to improve education outcomes and comply with Yazzie and Martinez v. New Mexico



HB 505/SB 309 - Capital Outlay Projects/Reauthorizations: Authorizes Capital Outlay Expenditures and Reauthorizes Existing Capital Outlay Expenditures

The Isleta Governor **OPPOSES** the following gaming bills because they reduce regulations for state gaming operators and thus could drive business away from Isleta Resort & Casino.



BILL NAME AND SUMMARY



HB 253 - Nonprofit Gaming Changes: Reducing the portion of gaming profits that non-profits/fraternal organizations must distribute to charitable or educational purposes; provides more flexibility for hours of operation



HB 301 - Gaming Operator License Rate Differential: Reduces tax on state gaming operators located near Tribal Casinos from 26% to 13%



HB 309 / SB 143 - Nonprofit Gaming Machine Max Award: Increases the max-pay out for gaming machines at non-profit/fraternal organizations



SB 293 - Gaming Licensee Free or Reduced Food: Authorizes racetracks to offer free food, drinks, and other services to gaming customers



SB 410 - Racetrack Gaming License Changes: Allows racetracks to use their business judgment to set race days for licensure purposes, rather than leaving to the discretion of the regulatory body

The Isleta Governor **SUPPORTS** the following natural resources bills because they increase state regulation, enhance environmental protections, and/or support Isleta's rights to water and resource management.



BILL NAME AND SUMMARY



HB 91 - Natural Resources Trustee changes: Provides greater authorities to the State Natural Resources Trustee to join civil suits related to air, water, and hazardous waste pollution



HB 121 - Water Right Lease Effective Date: Ensures the opportunity for stakeholder comment, including from Tribes, prior to water right lease transfers



HB 122 & SB 53 - Storage of Radioactive Waste: Requires State consent prior to nuclear storage within the state



HJR 4 & SJR 6 - Environmental Rights, CA: Constitutional amendment to improve environmental rights of individuals



SB 167 - Strategic Water Reserve: Appropriates funding to the State's strategic water reserve, which the State uses to purchase water rights and to prevent depletion of rivers and streams



SB 337 - Water Security Planning Act: Creates new Interstate Stream Commission process for water planning



SB 335 - Delay Part of Local Election Act: Changes the election date for the MRGCD in 2023 and delays implementation of the Local Election Act



The Isleta Governor **OPPOSES** the following child welfare bills because they weaken the State's Indian Families Protection Act, and thus weaken protections for Isleta children.



BILL NAME AND SUMMARY



HB 34 - Amending and Changing the Name of the Family Services Act:

Expanding the definition of Family in Need of Services for purposes of authorizing State interventions



HB 211 - CYFD Indian Foster Families:

Amends the Indian Families Protect Act and requires certain data-reporting that would be adverse to Isleta's interests



SB 150 - CYFD Plan of Care Failure Assessments: Increases State authorities for family interventions, in a manner that weakens the Indian Families Protection Act

The Isleta Governor **SUPPORTS** the following bills because they enhance voting rights and voting access, including for Tribal members.



BILL NAME AND SUMMARY



HB 4 - Voting Rights Protections:

Enacts the Native American Voting Rights Act; authorizes automatic voter registration; improves voting access for convicted felons; creates a voluntary permanent absentee voter list



SB 180 - Election Changes: Mandates use of voter convenience centers and expands early voting opportunities

The Isleta Governor **SUPPORTS** the following miscellaneous bills because they advance the Pueblo's interests generally.



BILL NAME AND SUMMARY



HJM 3 - Year of Bilingual Multicultural Education: Joint memorial to support multilingual, multicultural education in the state



SM 27 - American Indian Day: Honoring the State's indigenous culture and history



SB 33 - Tribal and Pueblo Law Enforcement:

Improves opportunities for Tribal law enforcement to enforce state law, at the election of Tribal law enforcement



SB 90 - Removing the Requirement that a Tribe's Tax must not be greater than the State GRT | "Tribal GRT Rates": Allows Tribes to implement a higher Gross Receipts Tax



SB 86 - NMSU Rural and Tribal Development Institute: Senate Bill 280 (SB 280) adds a new section to higher education to create a Rural and Tribal Development Institute at New Mexico State University.



SB 482 - State-Tribal Education Compact Schools Act: Creates the new State-Tribal Education Compact Schools Act authorizing the NM Department of Education to enter into state-tribal education compacts for language- and culture-based schools

For more information, please contact Pueblo of Isleta
Governor's Office at 505-869-3111