House Ad Hoc 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 9, 2022 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:
Jasmine Blackwater-Nygren (Vice Chair), Jennifer Jermaine (Chair), Vacant Z-1 House

Other   One representative of a Tribal government, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:
Ms. Monica Antone, Gila River Tribal Council (12/31/2022)

One member who works with the Phoenix or Tucson Indian Center, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:
Ms. Jolyana Begay-Kroupa, Phoenix Indian Center (12/31/2022)

The Director of the Department of Public Safety or the Director's designee:
Mr. Paul Etnire, Department of Public Safety (12/31/2022)

One member who is of indigenous descent or who attends meetings and actively works on issues relating to indigenous peoples, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:
Ms. Theresa Hatathlie-Delmar (12/31/2022)

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One county attorney or one sheriff, or their designee, from a county with a population of eight hundred fifty thousand persons or more, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:
Lt. Christopher Hechavarria, Maricopa County Sheriff's Office, General Investigations Division (12/31/2022)

One victim advocate, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:
Ms. April Ignacio, Tohono O'odham (12/31/2022)

One social worker who works with a Tribal, statewide or local organization that provides services to indigenous peoples, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:
Ms. Debbie Nez-Manuel (12/31/2022)

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 (12/31/2022)

One Attorney General or judge from a tribal jurisdiction, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:
Mr. Alfred Urbina, Pascua Yaqui Tribal Courts (12/31/2022)

One Chief of Police who is from a tribal police department, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:
Vacant (12/31/2022)

The Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:
Vacant (12/31/2022)

CONTACT: Ahjahna Graham, House Research Staff
REPORT DATE: 12/31/22
EXPIRATION DATE: 12/31/22
STATUTORY CITE: Ad hoc created by the Speaker of the House of Representatives