

1 **CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**

2 **RESOLUTION NO. 2019-17**

3 **INTRODUCED BY:**

4
5 Mayor Alan M. Webber

6 Councilor JoAnne Vigil Coppler

Councilor Renee D. Villarreal

7 Councilor Signe I. Lindell

Councilor Carol Romero-Wirth

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10 **A RESOLUTION**

11 **SUPPORTING CONGRESSWOMAN DEB HAALAND’S CALL FOR A NATIONAL**
12 **INVESTIGATION OF MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND**
13 **GIRLS.**

14
15 **WHEREAS**, the alarming number of indigenous women and girls who disappear or are
16 murdered each year is unacceptable and is a national disgrace; and

17 **WHEREAS**, four out of five Native American women are affected by violence today;
18 and

19 **WHEREAS**, in remarks given in 2012, former United States Attorney General Eric
20 Holder stated that on some reservations Native American women face murder rates that are more
21 than ten times the national average; and

22 **WHEREAS**, according to a 2016 National Institute of Justice report, more than 4 in 5
23 American Indian and Alaskan Native women (84.3%) have experienced some form of violence in
24 their lives; and

25 **WHEREAS**, out of seventy-one cities in the country, the City of Albuquerque has one of

1 the highest numbers of urban Native American women and girls who have been reported missing
2 or murdered, according to a recently published report by the Urban Indian Health Institute; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the same report notes that in urban New Mexico, which includes Santa Fe,
4 Albuquerque, Farmington, and Gallup, seventy-eight women and girls have been reported
5 missing or murdered since 1956, making New Mexico the State with the highest instance of
6 violence in the urban demographic; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the Urban Indian Health Institute reported that the challenges and barriers
8 in accessing data on this issue from law enforcement severely impedes the ability of
9 communities, tribal nations, and policymakers to make informed decisions on how best to address
10 the violence; and

11 **WHEREAS**, no federal agency has comprehensive data on how many indigenous
12 women and girls have been murdered or are missing; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the issue of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls is a priority
14 of Congresswoman Deb Haaland, a Pueblo of Laguna Tribal Member, who represents New
15 Mexico's First Congressional District in the United States House of Representatives; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Congresswoman Haaland is one of two of the first Native American
17 women to be elected to Congress; and

18 **WHEREAS**, on her website Congresswoman Haaland describes the number of missing
19 and murdered indigenous women as an epidemic and has stated that she plans to seek justice for
20 these women at the national level; and

21 **WHEREAS**, Congresswoman Haaland also notes that missing and murdered indigenous
22 women is a significant issue in Indian Country, but that women care about the issue all over the
23 country; and

24 **WHEREAS**, as a member of the Natural Resources Subcommittee for Indigenous
25 Peoples of the United States, Congresswoman Haaland led efforts to hold a hearing on missing

1 and murdered indigenous women for the first time on March 14, 2019; and

2 **WHEREAS**, missing and murdered indigenous women and children are not just statistics
3 and numbers; they are someone's child, sister, auntie, or mother.

4 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**
5 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that United States Congresswoman Deb Haaland is supported in her call
6 for a national investigation of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls.

7 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
8 Congresswoman Deb Haaland, New Mexico Municipal League, New Mexico Counties, Indian
9 Nation, Tribal and Pueblo leadership in New Mexico, the Secretary of the Department of Public
10 Safety, the Secretary of Indian Affairs, the United States Department of the Interior Bureau of
11 Indian Affairs, and the other members of the New Mexico Congressional Delegation.

12 PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 10th day of April, 2019.

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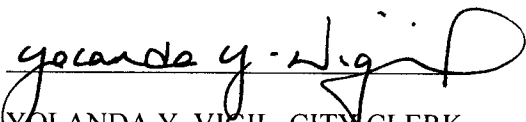


ALAN M. WEBBER, MAYOR

17 ATTEST:

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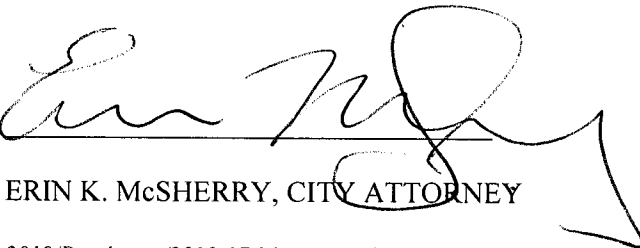
YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

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APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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ERIN K. McSHERRY, CITY ATTORNEY

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2019/Resolution/2019-17 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women