All Pueblo Council of Governors Supports SOS Native American Voting Task Force

SANTA FE – The All Pueblo Council of Governors passed a resolution today in support of the Native American Voting Task Force at a Council meeting in Taos Pueblo. The resolution passed unanimously.

"With the 2018 General Election approaching quickly, the Council's support will give the task force more tools and avenues to reach voters in tribal communities and help them expedite their work," said New Mexico Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver. "I'm proud of what the task force members have done so far to identify areas of need for Native voters and to build relationships with the Council and other tribal leaders to begin addressing those needs. I applaud the Council for recognizing how crucial this task force is to strengthening democracy in New Mexico."

"It's an honor to have the support of the Council as we continue looking for ways to give Native voters a voice," said Everett Chavez, the former Governor of the Santo Domingo Pueblo and the Chair of the Native American Voting Task Force. "We'll keep working alongside Secretary Toulouse Oliver to close the participation gap between Native voters and the rest of the state's registered voters."

Secretary Toulouse Oliver created the Native American Voting Task Force in 2017 to improve election participation in New Mexico's pueblos and tribal communities. The task force, which consists of ten members from various tribes and pueblos across the state, is charged with advising the Secretary of State on engaging Native Americans in the electoral process. The task force is working to boost voter registration in tribal communities, develop educational voting materials in Native languages and increase voter turnout among Native Americans.

The resolution that passed during today's Council meeting offers support to the Native American Voting Task Force and Secretary Toulouse Oliver in their effort, and urges the New Mexico legislature, tribal leaders and local county governments to work with the task force to improve the election experience for Native voters.

A copy of the resolution that passed unanimously today is available <u>here</u>.

More information on the Native American Voting Task Force is available here.

You can also follow the Native American Voting Task Force on Facebook.

###

Follow Secretary Toulouse Oliver on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>.