



12/16/2025

The Honorable Bruce Westerman
Chairman
House Natural Resources Committee
1324-A Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515-6201

The Honorable Jared Huffman
Ranking Member
House Natural Resources Committee
1324-A Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515-6201

Dear Chairman Westerman and Ranking Member Huffman:

On behalf of the Albuquerque Regional Economic Alliance (AREA), we express strong support for the transfer of 9.89 acres of former Albuquerque Indian School property to the 19 Pueblos of New Mexico under H.R.6162. This legislation represents an opportunity to advance economic development, cultural preservation, and collaborative partnerships that strengthen our region's competitiveness.

Greater Albuquerque is a region of extraordinary potential and is rich in culture, natural beauty, and talent. Projects like this land transfer are essential to supporting our job market and positioning our region among the top-performing mid-sized markets in the U.S.

The Indian Pueblo Cultural Center (IPCC) and Indian Pueblos Marketing, Inc. (IPMI) have demonstrated outstanding management of previously transferred lands, transforming them into a thriving cultural and business corridor, a true gem within our city. Their efforts have produced substantial revenue and tax contributions, created hundreds of jobs, and provided a welcoming environment for small businesses and entrepreneurs.

Expanding the opportunities created by the 19 Pueblos will strengthen Albuquerque's identity as a leading business destination by fostering mixed-use development, enhancing downtown revitalization, and creating a cultural atmosphere that benefits both business owners and Pueblo communities. This project will generate jobs and provide on-the-job training and internships to keep our best and brightest in Albuquerque, building a stronger talent pipeline and improving quality of life. IPCC and IPMI's proven model has cultivated an ecosystem for small businesses, and their campus exemplifies the kind of community that attracts new enterprises.

Thank you for your consideration and for supporting initiatives that strengthen our economy, enrich our culture, and secure a prosperous future for Greater Albuquerque and New Mexico.

Sincerely,

Chad Matheson

Chad Matheson, CEcD
Interim President & CEO/Senior VP
Albuquerque Regional Economic Alliance

Albuquerque Regional Economic Alliance

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Cc:

The Honorable Martin Heinrich, United States Senator

The Honorable Ben Ray Lujan, United States Senator

The Honorable Melanie Stansbury, United States Congresswoman

Ms. Monique Fragua, President & CEO, IPMI/IPCC

Albuquerque Regional Economic Alliance