

. V I S I T .
ALBUQUERQUE
CHANGE YOUR PERSPECTIVE

December 19, 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:

As President & CEO of Visit Albuquerque, I am writing in enthusiastic support of H.R.6162, the Albuquerque Indian School Act of 2025, and urge the Committee to schedule a hearing promptly. This legislation aligns directly with the goals of Albuquerque's Destination Master Plan—our 10-year strategic vision to enhance cultural authenticity, sustainability, connectivity, and economic vitality in our region.

This land transfer to the 19 Pueblos, for expansion of the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center (IPCC), offers powerful synergies with our Master Plan. IPCC is already a cornerstone of cultural authenticity in Albuquerque—celebrated by national travel editors for its immersive Indigenous heritage experiences. By expanding the Center's footprint, this initiative helps deliver our vision of deepening visitor engagement with living Pueblo culture, today's Indigenous entrepreneurship, and impactful food traditions.

Our Destination Master Plan emphasizes developing "compelling visitor experiences" and catalytic infrastructure that enhance overnight stays, spending, and positive destination image. The expanded IPCC campus will:

- Attract culturally motivated travelers seeking authentic Indigenous experiences.
- Support new festivals, workshops, and visitor programs year-round.
- Drive overnight bookings, retail/dining spend, and repeat visitation—critical to achieving our economic goals of over \$2 billion in visitor spending and 45,000+ tourism jobs.

By integrating Pueblo culture into Albuquerque's tourism fabric, Visit Albuquerque strengthens regional cohesion and positions Indigenous heritage as a core asset in our marketing and itinerary design.

Visit Albuquerque is proud to serve as a strategic partner to the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, already supporting collaborative storytelling, shared events, and visitor outreach. This expansion enhances our partnership by enabling co-developed visitor experiences—culinary showcases, cultural festivals, creative workshops—that bring Pueblo culture directly to our visitor economy.

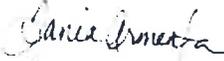
20 FIRST PLAZA NW SUITE 601 ALBUQUERQUE NM 87102
505 842.9918 800 733.9918 FAX 505 247.9101

VisitABQ.org #TrueABQ

We are aligned in our goal to grow Albuquerque as an inclusive destination where heritage, sustainability, and economic opportunity thrive together—benefiting residents, communities, and visitors alike.

Visit Albuquerque respectfully requests the Committee schedule a hearing on H.R. 6162. We are happy to answer any questions or provide additional information. Please feel free to contact me directly at 505-222-4301 or armenta@visitabq.org.

Sincerely,



Tania Armenta
President & CEO
Visit Albuquerque

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