

ANDREA ROMERO



2019 Committee Assignments

Vice Chair, House Consumer and Public Affairs Committee

House Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Committee

Bills Signed Into Law During the 2019 Legislative Session

HB 74	TRADITIONAL HISTORIC COMMUNITY QUALIFICATIONS	The Traditional Historic Community Qualifications Act (House Bill 74) expands the eligibility requirements for communities to qualify as “traditional historic communities,” which allows more areas and structures to be designated as historic communities---restricting the potential for annexation and helping protect more of our state’s cultural resources.
HB 85	UNION SECURITY AGREEMENTS	House Bill 85 protects workers’ ability to benefit from union representation in collective bargaining, grievance, and disciplinary proceedings. HB 85 prohibits local governments from adopting or enforcing so-called “right-to-work” laws that prevent workers from collectively bargaining for higher pay, better retirement security, and safer working conditions.
HB 100	REPLACE COLUMBUS DAY AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES’	House Bill 100 respects and honors New Mexico’s Native Americans and indigenous communities by changing the current state holiday “Columbus Day” to “Indigenous Peoples’ Day,” still to be celebrated on the second Monday in October.
HB 203	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCE & AG ENTERPRISES	House Bill 203 expands the definition of economic development beyond value-added agriculture, like milling wheat or canning fruit, to include traditional agriculture. This will allow traditional agricultural activity to be eligible for funding through the Local Economic Development Act.
HB 227	USE OF TEACHER ATTENDANCE FOR EVALUATIONS	To prevent punishment of teachers for being sick, and to deter the spread of illness by encouraging teachers to remain at home while they’re contagious, House Bill 227 prohibits a teacher’s use of up to 10 days of sick leave and any amount of personal leave from affecting their annual performance evaluation.
HB 267	CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORMS	House Bill 267 creates a data-sharing network to coordinate among law enforcement stakeholders to improve public safety. The network will receive, store, analyze, and disseminate criminal justice data for and among participating criminal justice and behavioral health agencies to evaluate local and statewide criminal justice systems and programs. HB 267 also sets up grant programs for certain projects, including those to expand treatment and supervision alternatives to incarceration, increase access to pre-prosecution diversion and specialty courts, and improve pretrial services programs.
HB 278	MISSING & MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN	According to the Urban Indian and Health Institute, New Mexico has the highest number of missing and murdered indigenous women. House Bill 278 creates a task force chaired by the secretary of the Indian Affairs Department to study and determine how to increase state resources for reporting and identifying missing and murdered indigenous women in the state.
HB 291	EFFICIENT USE OF ENERGY ACT CHANGES	New Mexico’s Efficient Use of Energy Act originally passed in 2005, but it desperately needed an update. House Bill 291 provides for updated goals and cost recovery percentages, adopts rate adjustment mechanisms to remove disincentives, and makes other positive changes to the law. This legislation codifies what energy companies and consumers well know: the cheapest and cleanest energy available is unused energy from efficiency.
HB 364	CORRECTIONS RESTRICTED HOUSING ACT	House Bill 364 prohibits a detention or correctional facility from placing an inmate younger than 18 years old, or inmates known to be pregnant, in “restricted housing,” otherwise known as solitary confinement. HB 364 further places restrictions on the use of solitary confinement for inmates with serious mental disabilities.
HB 370	CRIMINAL RECORD EXPUNGEMENT ACT	People with a criminal history face permanent barriers to employment, housing, education and more, long after their cases have been dismissed or their sentences are fully served. House Bill 370 creates a tool to allow certain individuals to petition the district court for an order removing arrest and public records from public access. If the district court grants a petition for expungement, the proceedings shall be treated as if they never occurred.

HB 447	TRACK CHILDREN BETWEEN SCHOOL & CYFD	House Bill 447 will facilitate tracking of public school students by requiring the Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD) and Public Education Department (PED) to jointly develop a system to be used by both agencies to track children under the age of 18 who move between public schools and [CYFD] services. PED will ensure that their student identification number system will stay unique to only one child and will never be reassigned to another child. This unique ID number will be used on all records, forms, transcripts and databases pertaining to the student.
SB 11	GROSS RECEIPTS FOR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS	Senate Bill 11 amends the statutory section on gross receipts taxes to ensure that the primary contractor operating a national laboratory in New Mexico continues to pay gross receipts taxes, regardless of whether the contractor is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.
SB 44	EQUIPMENT PURCHASES FOR LAND GRANTS	Senate Bill 44 provides a new opportunity for land grants to participate in the Local Governments Road Fund equipment hardship purchase program, administered by the Department of Transportation (DOT). Currently, DOT may expend up to \$500 thousand per year from the local government road fund to purchase equipment for counties and municipalities that would have otherwise been auctioned off by DOT.
SB 438	ACEQUIA & COMMUNITY DITCH INFRASTRUCTURE FUND	(Mirror of HB 517 below) establishes the "acequia and community ditch infrastructure fund" to be administered by the Interstate Stream Commission (ISC) at the Office of the State Engineer (OSE). It will provide funding for the planning, engineering, design or construction of irrigation works of acequias or community ditches, including dams, reservoirs, diversions, ditches, flumes or other appurtenances, for the purposes of restoration, repair, improvement of irrigation efficiency or protection from floods.

All Bills and Memorials Sponsored in 2019

HB 21	FREE MENSTRUAL SANITARY PRODUCTS IN SCHOOLS
HB 22	LOWER SMALL & INSTALLMENT LOAN APR
HB 53	PET FOOD FEE FOR SPAY & NEUTER PROGRAMS
HB 62	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES
HB 74	TRADITIONAL HISTORIC COMMUNITY QUALIFICATIONS
HB 85	UNION SECURITY AGREEMENTS
HB 100	REPLACE COLUMBUS DAY AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES'
HB 168	STUDENT ID NUMBER TRACKING & REPORTING
HB 203	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCE & AG ENTERPRISES
HB 210	COMMUNITY SOLAR ACT
HB 215	LOW-INCOME, AT-RISK CHILDREN DANCE PROGRAM
HB 219	MAKE ANGEL INVESTMENT CREDIT REFUNDABLE
HB 227	USE OF TEACHER ATTENDANCE FOR EVALUATIONS
HB 261	INCREASE CIGARETTE TAXES
HB 267	CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORMS
HB 278	MISSING & MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN
HB 284	FREE SUNDAY STATE PARK ADMISSION
HB 290	OPIOID AGONIST THERAPY FOR INMATES
HB 291	EFFICIENT USE OF ENERGY ACT CHANGES
HB 364	CORRECTIONS RESTRICTED HOUSING ACT
HB 370	CRIMINAL RECORD EXPUNGEMENT ACT
HB 382	USE OF CRIMINAL RECORDS FOR EMPLOYMENT
HB 386	INSTALLMENT & SMALL LOAN MAXIMUM INTEREST
HB 401	SCHOOL LIBRARY WATERSHED SCIENCE CURRICULUM
HB 406	PRC TRANSMISSION LINE JURISDICTION
HB 414	NOTICE OF NURSING HOME CLOSURE
HB 447	TRACK CHILDREN BETWEEN SCHOOL & CYFD
HB 517	ACEQUIA & COMMUNITY DITCH FUND
HM 16	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INNOVATION TASK FORCE
HM 38	INCORPORATE SANTA CRUZ DE LA CANADA
HM 57	SCHOOL ETHICAL CONDUCT TASK FORCE
HM 60	SCHOOL FLOOR PLANS TO LAW ENFORCEMENT
HM 84	SUPPORT FOR "GREEN NEW DEAL"
SB 11	GROSS RECEIPTS FOR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS
SB 44	EQUIPMENT PURCHASES FOR LAND GRANTS
SB 136	EFFICIENT USE OF ENERGY ACT AMENDMENTS
SB 385	PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE OF CERTAIN FELONS
SB 456	ELECTRIC UTILITY RESOURCE PROCUREMENT