

Template Resolution

A Resolution Supporting the Confirmation of Deb Haaland as Secretary of the Interior

WHEREAS, Your organization information

WHEREAS, Deb Haaland was selected by President-elect Joe Biden and Vice Present-elect Kamala Harris as their nominee for the United States Secretary of the Interior; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior is charged with leading divisions of the federal government that are critical to Indian Country and the government-to-government relationship, including the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Indian Education, and the Bureau of Trust Funds Administration; and

WHEREAS, Deb Haaland is uniquely qualified to serve as the Secretary of the Interior. A graduate of the University of New Mexico Law School and a former tribal administrator, Haaland has firsthand knowledge of tribal governance. A trailblazer, she was the first Chairwoman elected to the Laguna Development Corporation Board of Directors to oversee the second largest tribal gaming enterprise in New Mexico and one of the first Native American women elected to Congress. During her time in Congress, Deb Haaland has served as the Vice Chair of the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources, as the Chair of the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, and as a member of the Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States; and

WHEREAS, as an enrolled member of the Pueblo of Laguna, Deb Haaland will be the first American Indian to serve in the Presidential Cabinet and first to serve as the Secretary of the Interior once her nomination is confirmed by the Senate; and

WHEREAS, as a member of Congress, Deb Haaland has been a fierce advocate for Indian Country and served as a champion on issues brought forth by the Five Tribes; and

WHEREAS, Deb Haaland has spent her career working to strengthen tribal sovereignty, protect and defend natural resources, and expand protections for Native women and children. As a member of Congress, she introduced the Honoring Promises to Native Nations Act which sought to enact

recommendations from the *U.S. Commission on Civil Rights' "Broken Promises" Report*; and

WHEREAS, as a member of Congress, Deb Haaland authored the Not Invisible Act to help address the crisis of missing and murdered indigenous peoples which was signed into law in September of 2020; and

WHEREAS, having Deb Haaland's expertise at the helm of the Department of the Interior will greatly benefit all of Indian Country; and

WHEREAS, Deb Haaland is someone who knows what it is like to struggle and work hard and she will work tirelessly for every person - no matter their tribal affiliation, party, politics or beliefs; and

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, that **your organization** supports Deb Haaland's nomination for United States Secretary of the Interior.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that **your organization** urges the United States Senate to confirm Deb Haaland as Secretary of the Interior.