

MARCH 6, 2023

HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

SB 2257

SUBMITTED BY SEN DAVID CLEMENS

DISTRICT 16

I AM DAVID CLEMENS AND REPRESENT DISTRICT 16 IN THE SENATE. I AM HERE TO INTRODUCE SB 2257.

SB 2257 IS CONCERNING THE CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE TASK FORCE AND WOULD EXTEND THE AUTHORITY OF THE TASK FORCE UNTIL JUNE 30, 2025. THIS EXTENDED DATE WILL ALIGN THE TASK FORCE DATES WITH THE FUNDING EXPIRATION DATE OF JUNE 30, 2025. THE TASK FORCE HAS A FULL TIME DIRECTOR FUNDED THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

THE TASK FORCE IS COMPRISED OF FOUR MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE, ONE MEMBER EACH FROM HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND RAPE CRISIS CENTER, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION, LAW ENFORCEMENT, INDIAN AFFAIRS, SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER AND A MEMBER OF THE FAITH BASED COMMUNITY. THE TASK FORCE ALSO HAS TWO MEMBERS FROM SCHOOL PRINCIPALS AND TWO SCHOOL COUNSELORS.

THE TASK FORCE IS TO FOCUS ON INCREASING CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION INFORMATION FOR TRIBAL AND NON-TRIBAL CHILDREN AND ADULTS. THE FORCE SHALL ALSO COLLECT DATA, SUPPORT INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE, INCREASING SERVICES FOR CHILDREN, ADULTS AND FAMILIES, AND RECOMMENDATIONS IN A FINAL REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT AND THE GOVERNOR. THE FINAL REPORT SHALL LIST RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SPECIFIC STATUTORY CHANGES, AND ACTIONS DEEMED NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE TO INITIATE AWARENESS EDUCATION OF ADULTS AND CHILDREN.

I HEREBY ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF SB 2257 WITH A DO PASS RECOMMENDATION.

SINCERELY,

SEN DAVID CLEMENS