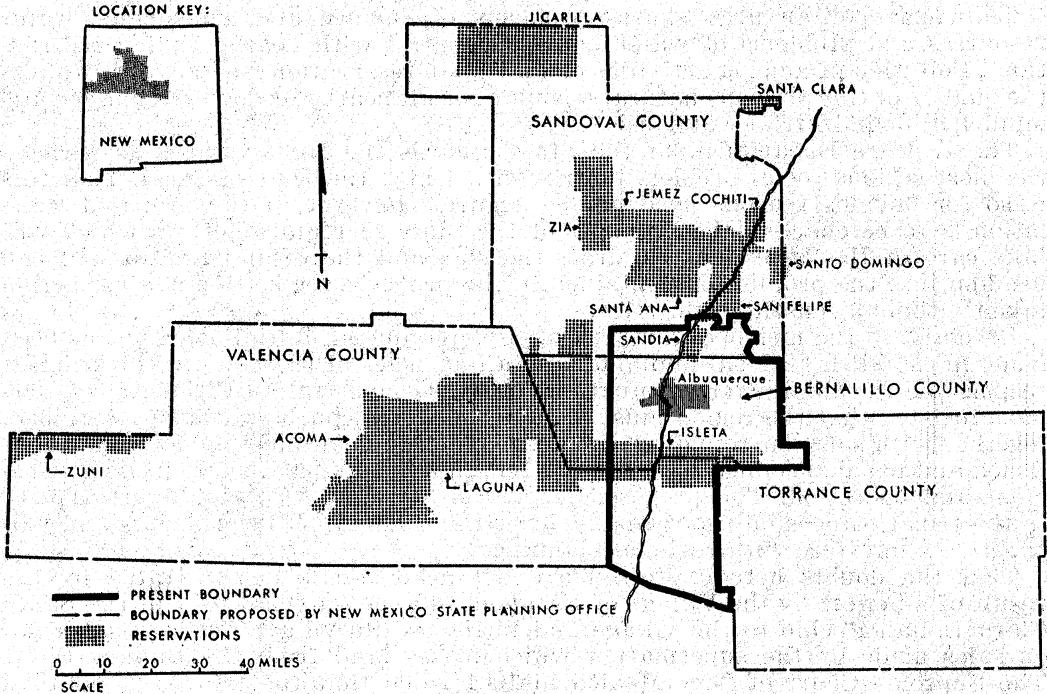




MIDDLE RIO GRANDE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

The CHAIRMAN. The next witness is Mr. Clarence Acoya, executive director, New Mexico Commission on Indian Affairs. Mr. Acoya, we are glad to have you before the committee. Do you have a written statement?

**STATEMENT OF CLARENCE ACOYA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
NEW MEXICO COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS**

Mr. ACOYA. Yes, sir; I do. Honorable Chairman and members of the committee, I have a statement from the Governor of the State of New Mexico in behalf of the Indian pueblos. I wish to read the statement, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. You may proceed.

Mr. ACOYA. A statement in behalf of the 19 Pueblo Indians of New Mexico.

Mr. MEEDS. Do we have copies? You do not have a copy?

Mr. ACOYA. No, sir; I do not. I just got this this morning.

The CHAIRMAN. He can read it and we will pass it around.

Mr. ACOYA. Thank you.

I am asking Clarence Acoya, Executive Director for New Mexico Commission on Indian Affairs to convey my support in the direction expressed by the letter of transmittal and resolution adopted by the All-Indian Pueblo Council of New Mexico.

The resolution expresses concern for sections of Title I and II of S. 1843, where in the opinion of the All-Indian Pueblo Council, constitutes an invasion upon their inherent authority to administer justice within the scope of their governmental organizations and a threat to the total way of self-government justified as being sovereign.

It has been my understanding, through my contact and association with the Pueblo Indian entities in the State of New Mexico, that their people have always had the basic guarantees of freedoms parallel to those found in our own Bill of Rights.