

July 29, 2010

Washington, DC – Today, Rep. Ben Ray Luján attended the Bill Signing Ceremony for The Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 at the White House. The Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 will improve the criminal justice system on tribal lands and provide tribes with more local control. Specifically, the legislation would require federal officials to notify tribal officials if federal officials decline to prosecute a case on tribal lands. Under the legislation, tribal officials would also obtain information compiled by federal officials and have increased access to national criminal databases. It would also empower tribal police to make arrests for all crimes committed on tribal land.

“This legislation helps empower tribal officials to keep their communities safe,” said Rep. Luján. “The legislation improves government to government coordination and enhances sovereignty. I’m encouraged by today’s signing, and I will continue to work with tribal officials to strengthen government to government relationships.”

Rep. Luján supported the legislation in the House of Representatives where it passed 326 to 92.