

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 1, 2021

Contact: Joaquin Romero

joaquin.romero@nmlegis.gov

(505) 506-5798

Senator Bill Sharer Issues Statement of Support for Navajo Nation Council Opposition to Biden Drilling Ban

SANTA FE – As the nation rushes to sort through the 2,500 page, \$3.5 trillion dollar spending bill proposed by Congressional Democrats and the White House, many are now uncovering alarming and harmful policies. One such policy buried in the bill is a ban on new drilling outside Chaco Culture National Historic Park in northwest New Mexico. In response, the Navajo Nation Council has issued a letter to Congressional leaders stating their opposition to the measure and citing its [“real threat” to the livelihoods of tribal members](#).

Senator William Sharer (District 1-San Juan), who represents northwest New Mexico, issued the following statement in support of the Council’s opposition:

“When transparency goes to the wind, so does our democracy. This behemoth of a bill is intended to hide the priorities of well-connected special interest groups and omit the concerns of key stakeholders. It is shameful that these out-of-touch politicians would rather rush their radical, progressive agenda through, than consult with the people they claim to represent. President Biden, Speaker Pelosi, and New Mexico’s democratic leaders in Washington owe an apology to the Navajo people. I urge them to heed the request of the Council to visit our state before approving any new policies that jeopardize the well-being of tribal members.”

###