

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

SENATE BILL 276

54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019

INTRODUCED BY

Nancy Rodriguez

AN ACT

RELATING TO EXECUTIVE REORGANIZATION; CREATING THE OFFICE OF
PEACEBUILDING; PROVIDING POWERS AND DUTIES; CREATING THE
CITIZENS PEACEBUILDING ADVISORY COUNCIL; MAKING AN
APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. [NEW MATERIAL] SHORT TITLE.--This act may be
cited as the "Office of Peacebuilding Act".

SECTION 2. [NEW MATERIAL] PURPOSE.--The purpose of the
Office of Peacebuilding Act is to establish an office dedicated
to building a culture of peace, including training that will
facilitate the prevention, management and resolution of
conflict without violence and the study and implementation of
appropriate educational curricula at all levels and of
conditions that are conducive to a culture of peace.

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 SECTION 3. [NEW MATERIAL] DEFINITIONS.--As used in the
2 Office of Peacebuilding Act:

3 A. "council" means the citizens peacebuilding
4 advisory council;

5 B. "dialogue process" means a facilitated process
6 of people taking turns talking and listening to each other to
7 allow an exchange of diverse ideas, information, opinions and
8 experiences to foster greater understanding between people;

9 C. "director" means the director of the office;

10 D. "office" means the office of peacebuilding; and

11 E. "restorative justice" means a facilitated
12 process allowing everyone involved in a conflict to be heard,
13 to acknowledge responsibility for harm caused, to seek ways to
14 repair the harm and to restore relationships and community.

15 SECTION 4. [NEW MATERIAL] OFFICE ESTABLISHED.--The
16 "office of peacebuilding" is created. The office is
17 administratively attached to the department of finance and
18 administration. For purposes of this section, the term
19 "administratively attached" has the meaning specified in
20 Section 9-1-7 NMSA 1978.

21 SECTION 5. [NEW MATERIAL] DIRECTOR--APPOINTMENT.--

22 A. The administrative head of the office is the
23 "director of the office of peacebuilding", who shall be
24 appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate.

25 B. The director shall be an administrator who has

.212454.1

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 shown successful administrative experience and has no fewer
2 than eighty hours of training in alternative dispute
3 resolution, mediation, dialogue or restorative justice and at
4 least two years of experience in applying these skills in a
5 community setting or equivalent life experience.

6 C. The director shall serve and have all the
7 duties, responsibilities and authority of the office during the
8 time prior to final action by the senate confirming or
9 rejecting the appointment.

10 SECTION 6. [NEW MATERIAL] DIRECTOR--DUTIES.--

11 A. The director shall:

12 (1) be responsible to the governor for the
13 operation of the office;

14 (2) manage the operation of the office;

15 (3) apply the resources and skills of the
16 office statewide to:

17 (a) the prevention, management and
18 resolution of conflict;

19 (b) public education on peace and
20 nonviolence;

21 (c) the study and promotion of social,
22 environmental and sustainable economic conditions that create a
23 culture of peace; and

24 (d) the development of a peace education
25 curriculum, including use in classrooms and restorative justice

.212454.1

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 programs, with educators and schools at all levels;

2 (4) assist in the analysis and growth of
3 existing policies and programs and develop new approaches and
4 encourage innovation, in collaboration and coordination with
5 established institutional and agency efforts and
6 nongovernmental organizations, including alternative dispute
7 resolution centers, statewide peace studies programs, statewide
8 peace and justice centers, public school peer mediation,
9 dialogue and restorative justice programs and juvenile court
10 programs;

11 (5) help integrate the peace education
12 curriculum into the training programs for new and experienced
13 teachers and recommend peace studies courses as part of teacher
14 education in New Mexico; and

15 (6) gather information on effective community
16 peacebuilding activities and disseminate the information by:

17 (a) sponsoring and organizing
18 conferences;

19 (b) creating awareness of the activities
20 of the office;

21 (c) facilitating a forum for discussing
22 peace issues and studies; and

23 (d) exploring the meaning and practice
24 of peace and nonviolence in the lives of New Mexicans.

25 B. The director may:

.212454.1

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 (1) provide peace education grants for the
2 creation and expansion of peace studies programs and practice
3 at all educational levels;

4 (2) provide grants to nonviolent communication
5 and nonviolent conflict resolution programs and local
6 nongovernmental peacebuilding initiatives;

7 (3) employ professional and clerical
8 assistance, contractors and general counsel as deemed necessary
9 and oversee staff performance, setting priorities within time
10 and budget constraints; and

11 (4) accept grants and gifts on behalf of the
12 office.

13 SECTION 7. [NEW MATERIAL] COUNCIL--CREATION--MEMBERS--
14 RESPONSIBILITIES.--

15 A. The "citizens peacebuilding advisory council" is
16 created and shall be composed of the director and eleven
17 appointed members as follows, who reflect a concern for the
18 integrity of the environment, the creative imagination of the
19 arts and the multicultural, gender, economic, geographic and
20 political diversity of the people of New Mexico:

21 (1) two representatives from established state
22 or local peace advocacy organizations, appointed by the
23 director;

24 (2) one representative from the New Mexico
25 faith community, appointed by the director;

.212454.1

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 (3) one representative from a local, county or
2 state law enforcement agency who has specialized in violence
3 prevention, appointed by the secretary of public safety;

4 (4) one health professional with expertise in
5 behavioral and public health issues, appointed by the secretary
6 of health;

7 (5) one representative from the New Mexico
8 mediation association, appointed by that organization's body;

9 (6) one veteran who has served in an armed
10 conflict, appointed by the secretary of veterans' services;

11 (7) one public school educator with knowledge
12 of peace curriculum development, appointed by the secretary of
13 public education;

14 (8) one representative of the university of
15 New Mexico's peace studies program, appointed by that program's
16 body;

17 (9) one youth representative, between the ages
18 of fifteen and twenty-four years, appointed by the lieutenant
19 governor; and

20 (10) one member appointed by the secretary of
21 Indian affairs.

22 B. The term of service of appointed council members
23 shall be four years. The initial terms shall be staggered so
24 that the terms of six members shall expire at the end of the
25 initial two years, and the terms of five members shall expire

.212454.1

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 at the end of the initial four years. The initial terms shall
2 be selected by random drawing. A member of the council shall
3 not serve more than two full terms. In the event of a vacancy
4 on the council, a new member shall be appointed by the original
5 appointing authority for the unexpired term.

6 C. The council shall select a chair, a vice chair
7 and other officers as it deems necessary.

8 D. The council shall meet no less than twice
9 annually and may meet more frequently upon the call of the
10 chair. The council shall:

11 (1) use the dialogue process in its
12 interactions with each other and the staff;

13 (2) provide assistance and make
14 recommendations to the director and the governor concerning
15 peace-related policies and practices;

16 (3) annually, assess peace-related activities
17 in the state and submit a report to the director and the
18 governor reviewing the impact of state peace activities on
19 governmental entities and communities; and

20 (4) publicize and allot time to receive and
21 report public input at regular council meetings, thus
22 maintaining a grassroots connection with the residents of New
23 Mexico.

24 E. Council members shall receive per diem and
25 mileage as provided for nonsalaried public officers in the Per

.212454.1

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material]~~ = delete

1 Diem and Mileage Act and shall receive no other compensation,
2 perquisite or allowance.

3 F. The office shall provide for its own space and
4 for the space and administrative needs of the council.

5 SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION.--Five hundred thousand dollars
6 (\$500,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the office
7 of peacebuilding for expenditure in fiscal year 2020 and
8 subsequent fiscal years to carry out the purposes of the Office
9 of Peacebuilding Act. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance
10 remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the
11 general fund.

12 SECTION 9. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the
13 provisions of this act is July 1, 2019.