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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 5

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2012

INTRODUCED BY

Timothy M. Keller

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO CREATE A
LEGISLATIVE INTERIM GOVERNMENT REFORM COMMITTEE.

WHEREAS, in 2010, the legislative interim government restructuring task force was tasked with studying the current resources of state agencies, programs, services, funding and policies and the public needs served by them; and

WHEREAS, the government restructuring task force included in its study the recommendations of the 2009 governor's committee on government efficiency, also known as the Carruthers committee; the need for consolidation of agencies and elimination or reduction of redundant, duplicative or overlapping programs and services; and current and projected revenue estimates for the next three to five years; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico is experiencing one of its toughest

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1 financial times since the Great Depression, and the legislature
2 and the executive must work together to ensure that state
3 government is able to provide essential services to its
4 residents at the least cost to its taxpayers; and

5 WHEREAS, the government restructuring task force advised
6 that, in order to ensure that state government is able to
7 provide essential services to its residents, more than one
8 interim's work will be required, acknowledging that there is
9 still work to be done if state government and state funding are
10 to be right-sized for the next decade;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
12 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council be
13 requested to create an interim legislative government reform
14 committee to continue the work of the 2010 government
15 restructuring task force; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the government reform
17 committee:

18 A. meet on a regular basis and conduct hearings on
19 issues relating to state and local government reform, structure
20 and process;

21 B. conduct a continuing study that evaluates the
22 efficiency of the state's agencies, programs, services, funding
23 and policies;

24 C. oversee and monitor state agencies and take
25 testimony from state and local officials on state agency needs;

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1 D. undertake an ongoing examination of the
2 statutes, constitutional provisions, regulations and court
3 decisions relating to state and local government in New Mexico;
4 and

5 E. report its findings and recommendations,
6 including legislation or necessary changes, to each session of
7 the legislature on or before December 15 of each year; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
9 transmitted to the co-chairs of New Mexico legislative council.

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