

HOUSE COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE MEMORIAL 56

56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2024

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT THE SOUTH CENTRAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
CONVENE A SERIES OF MEETINGS WITH STAKEHOLDERS ALONG THE
STATE'S BORDER WITH MEXICO TO STUDY THE BORDER DEVELOPMENT ACT
AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION THAT UPDATES THE
BORDER DEVELOPMENT ACT TO INCREASE TRANSPARENCY AND OVERSIGHT.

WHEREAS, the Border Development Act was enacted in 1991,
establishing the border authority to "encourage and foster
development of the state, its cities and counties by developing
port facilities at international ports of entry"; and

WHEREAS, the Border Development Act has not been amended
since 2011; and

WHEREAS, since then, the United States economy has
experienced development due to geopolitical shifts, global
supply chain resets, climate change and a rapidly emerging

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underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 electric vehicle industry; and

2 WHEREAS, the border authority is currently
3 administratively attached to the economic development
4 department; and

5 WHEREAS, the Border Development Act does not specify
6 professional requirements for border authority membership,
7 which may result in limited knowledge and skill sets in this
8 niche area of government; and

9 WHEREAS, the composition of the border authority should be
10 amended to be more inclusive of both the executive and
11 legislative branches; and

12 WHEREAS, the border authority only reports to the New
13 Mexico finance authority oversight committee regarding general
14 border activities and annual budget requests; and

15 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial for the border authority
16 to report to other committees, such as the legislative finance
17 committee; and

18 WHEREAS, reporting requirements for state agencies provide
19 oversight and transparency to the legislature and the public;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, the border authority is not authorized by statute
22 to promulgate rules; and

23 WHEREAS, the Border Development Act should be amended to
24 address these issues and to reflect the current needs of the
25 border authority;

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