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SENATE MEMORIAL 21

45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001

INTRODUCED BY

H. Diane Snyder

A MEMORIAL

**REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO ACT AS LEAD
AGENCY IN REVIEWING THE SYSTEMS AND PROCESSES FOR BACKGROUND
CHECKS FOR ALL STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES, BOARDS AND
COMMISSIONS.**

**WHEREAS, the state is committed to protecting its citizens
and the general public from individuals with specified criminal
history backgrounds by restricting such individuals from
engaging in certain types of employment; and**

**WHEREAS, numerous state agencies currently require
criminal history background checks at either the state or
federal level; and**

**WHEREAS, several state statutes currently require criminal
history background checks at either the state or federal level;**

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1 and

2 WHEREAS, state statutes and state agencies have varying
3 requirements, including different fee schedules, procedures,
4 time lines and disqualifying convictions for criminal history
5 background checks; and

6 WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the state to have
7 an efficient and effective system of criminal background checks
8 that is prompt, reasonably priced and accurate;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
10 OF NEW MEXICO that the department of public safety, as the lead
11 agency and in cooperation with all other state and local
12 agencies, boards and commissions that conduct or require state
13 or federal criminal history background checks, examine and
14 review existing statutes, identify areas for improvement of
15 efficiency and effectiveness, reduce duplication and maintain
16 reasonable costs; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department of public
18 safety report its findings and recommendations to the
19 legislative interim courts and criminal justice committee or
20 other appropriate interim committee on or before November 1,
21 2002 for consideration by the forty-sixth legislature; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
23 transmitted to the legislative courts and criminal justice
24 committee or other appropriate interim committee, the secretary
25 of public safety and the administrative heads of all other

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1 state agencies, boards and commissions that conduct or require
2 criminal history background checks.

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