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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 15

45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2002

INTRODUCED BY
Gail C. Beam

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT AN APPROPRIATE INTERIM LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
STUDY AND REVIEW THE MANDATE THAT NEW MEXICO COUNTIES PROVIDE
FOR EXPENSES OF CERTAIN STATE AGENCIES.

WHEREAS, New Mexico counties are mandated to provide for
expenses of various state agencies, such as expenses for
office space, utilities and some maintenance costs for
district courts, district attorneys, juvenile probation and
parole officers and the department of health; and

WHEREAS, without any assistance in funding from the
state, a county is mandated to cover expenses and capital
requirements for various state agencies out of the county's
general fund, which decreases the county's ability to serve
the needs of the citizens of that county; and

WHEREAS, county officials recognize the benefit to the
citizens of New Mexico of having state services available
locally; however, both the state and the counties would
benefit more from having fully developed guidelines detailing
the financial responsibilities of the state and the counties

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1 in a manner that best serves the needs of state agencies as
2 well as recognizes the limitations on county revenues;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
4 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that an appropriate interim legislative
5 committee study and review the mandate that New Mexico
6 counties provide for expenses of certain state agencies; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee work with the
8 New Mexico association of counties, district courts, district
9 attorneys, juvenile probation and parole officers and the
10 administrative office of the courts to develop guidelines
11 detailing the respective financial responsibilities of the
12 counties and the state regarding the mandate of counties to
13 provide maintenance expenses and adequate office space to
14 certain state agencies; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
16 transmitted to the chairman of the appropriate interim
17 legislative committee and to the executive director of the New
18 Mexico association of counties.
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