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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 20

**52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015**

INTRODUCED BY

Patricio Ruiloba and Gerald Ortiz y Pino

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF THE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF AND FUNDING FOR A STATEWIDE TRAINING FACILITY AND TO IDENTIFY METHODS TO PROVIDE TRAINING, EVALUATION AND INFORMATIONAL SUPPORT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS RESPONDING TO CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING TACTICAL RESPONSES.

WHEREAS, incidents of excessive or deadly force by law enforcement officers in New Mexico have caught national attention and have caused great concern among residents of New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, it is important for law enforcement agencies throughout New Mexico to provide protection to the residents of the state, while avoiding the use of unnecessary force whenever

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1 possible; and

2 WHEREAS, the use of excessive or deadly force by police  
3 officers in New Mexico has resulted in protests by New Mexico  
4 residents; and

5 WHEREAS, there are particular concerns about the use of  
6 excessive force against individuals who are homeless, who live  
7 in poverty or who suffer from mental illness; and

8 WHEREAS, incidents of excessive or deadly force by law  
9 enforcement officers in New Mexico have raised questions about  
10 whether they are engaging in practices consistent with the  
11 trust placed in them by the residents of New Mexico; and

12 WHEREAS, in 2014, as the result of a comprehensive  
13 investigation, the United States department of justice found  
14 that in Albuquerque, a "pattern and practice of excessive  
15 force, including deadly force" is the result of "serious  
16 systemic deficiencies in policy, training, supervision and  
17 accountability"; and

18 WHEREAS, tactical response training facilities for law  
19 enforcement and correctional officers in New Mexico are  
20 lacking; and

21 WHEREAS, a consistent approach to training, evaluating and  
22 educating law enforcement and correctional officers statewide  
23 would improve their tactical responses in dangerous conditions;  
24 and

25 WHEREAS, the establishment of a permanent tactical

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1 response training facility in New Mexico would provide  
2 necessary education, technology and infrastructure for law  
3 enforcement and correctional officers who are members of  
4 tactical response teams;

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
6 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of public safety be  
7 requested to convene a task force composed of three chiefs of  
8 police; two front-line law enforcement officers; the director  
9 of the New Mexico law enforcement academy; the secretary of  
10 corrections; and members of community organizations, including  
11 mental health professionals and advocates for the homeless and  
12 for others living in poverty; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to  
14 study the feasibility of the design, construction and operation  
15 of a statewide training facility for law enforcement and  
16 correctional officers who are members of tactical response  
17 teams; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to  
19 identify possible sources of funding for the statewide training  
20 facility, including federal and state funding sources; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to  
22 identify methods to create courses for law enforcement and  
23 correctional officers involved in circumstances requiring  
24 tactical responses, including courses involving standardized  
25 uses of firearms and qualifications for firearms; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to  
2 identify methods to standardize training programs, such as  
3 basic response training, training for responses to active  
4 shootings, annual training and other training required for  
5 certification; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to  
7 identify methods to standardize the evaluation process for law  
8 enforcement and correctional officers on tactical response  
9 teams and their instructors; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to  
11 identify service providers, other than law enforcement and  
12 corrections personnel, who may provide education to law  
13 enforcement and correctional officers with respect to pertinent  
14 issues involving mental health, homelessness, poverty, drug  
15 addiction, domestic violence, veterans' affairs, posttraumatic  
16 stress disorder and community policing; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to  
18 identify certified mental health professionals to partner with  
19 law enforcement and correctional officers by providing  
20 informational support during tactical response call outs; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force identify  
22 methods to standardize the collection of post-incident  
23 information and other data to improve future tactical responses  
24 by law enforcement and correctional officers; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of public safety

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1 be requested to report the findings and recommendations of the  
2 task force to the appropriate legislative interim committee by  
3 December 1, 2015; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
5 transmitted to the secretary of public safety.

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