

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE TOURISM DEPARTMENT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
3 DEPARTMENT, STATE LAND OFFICE, DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND FISH  
4 AND ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT TO FORM  
5 A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF OFF-HIGHWAY  
6 MOTOR VEHICLE USAGE AS A CATALYST FOR ADVENTURE TOURISM AND  
7 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN NEW MEXICO.

8  
9 WHEREAS, tourism is a vital component of New Mexico's  
10 economic development strategy, and off-highway motor vehicle  
11 usage is one of the fastest growing segments of the adventure  
12 tourism market; and

13 WHEREAS, adventure travelers spend significant amounts  
14 of money on overnight visits, which help to support  
15 innumerable small businesses and create thousands of jobs;  
16 and

17 WHEREAS, the economic impact of off-highway motor  
18 vehicle usage in New Mexico is significant and includes out-  
19 of-state visitors who travel to and stay in New Mexico to  
20 participate in off-highway motor vehicle activities as well  
21 as direct spending in the region by all visitors to these  
22 events;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
24 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the tourism  
25 department, economic development department, state land

1 office, department of game and fish and energy, minerals and  
2 natural resources department be requested to form a task  
3 force to study off-highway motor vehicle usage as a catalyst  
4 for adventure tourism and economic development in New Mexico  
5 and study the feasibility of creating an expanded trail  
6 system in New Mexico for off-highway motor vehicles; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested  
8 to review any relevant topic related to off-highway motor  
9 vehicle usage, including:

10 A. current off-highway motor vehicle usage in New  
11 Mexico and projections for increased usage;

12 B. the current availability of commercial and  
13 publicly owned sites where off-highway motor vehicle usage is  
14 allowed;

15 C. the economic impact of off-highway motor  
16 vehicle usage in New Mexico, including estimates of the  
17 numbers of out-of-state visitors who travel to New Mexico to  
18 participate in off-highway motor vehicle activities,  
19 estimates of direct spending in the region by visitors and  
20 projections of the economic impact that increased numbers of  
21 visitors may have if additional off-highway motor vehicle  
22 trails are developed; and

23 D. the feasibility of using segments of existing  
24 trails in New Mexico for development of expanded off-highway  
25 motor vehicle trails; and

1           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested  
2 to make recommendations, develop a comprehensive plan to  
3 increase the use of off-highway motor vehicles, to increase  
4 and enhance the number of sites available for the use of off-  
5 highway motor vehicles and to promote off-highway motor  
6 vehicle adventure tourism in New Mexico based on its findings  
7 and report its findings and recommendations to the  
8 legislative finance committee no later than November 2017;  
9 and

10           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
11 transmitted to the tourism department, the economic  
12 development department, the state land office, the department  
13 of game and fish and the energy, minerals and natural  
14 resources department.

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