

1 A JOINT MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE NEW MEXICO SUPREME COURT
3 TO CONVENE A CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY TASK FORCE TO
4 IDENTIFY ISSUES OF PRIMARY CONCERN WITHIN THE STATE'S
5 CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY SYSTEM AND TO DEVELOP A
6 STRATEGIC PLAN TO AMELIORATE THOSE CONCERNS.

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8 WHEREAS, the crime rates in New Mexico have continued to
9 increase over the past several years, and the rate of
10 property crime in Albuquerque is the highest in the country;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, most of the public safety concerns facing the
13 state are linked to substance use, behavioral health concerns
14 and strained criminal justice agency budgets; and

15 WHEREAS, it is critical that the state address issues
16 within the criminal justice system, which will involve
17 evaluating and identifying the areas most in need of support
18 within early childhood intervention programs; law
19 enforcement; prosecutor's and public defender's offices; the
20 courts; corrections facilities and county jails; and the
21 behavioral health care system, among others;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
23 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the chief justice of the New Mexico
24 supreme court be requested to convene, by April 1, 2018, a
25 criminal justice and public safety task force to identify the

1 issues of primary concern within the state's criminal justice
2 and public safety system and to develop a strategic plan to
3 ameliorate those concerns, including measurable outcomes to
4 help ensure that public investments in improvements to that
5 system are as efficient and effective as possible; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the criminal justice and
7 public safety task force be composed of the following members
8 or the members' designee:

9 A. a representative of the courts, appointed by
10 the chief justice of the New Mexico supreme court, to serve
11 as the chair of the task force;

12 B. the attorney general;

13 C. the president of the New Mexico district
14 attorneys association;

15 D. the chief public defender;

16 E. the secretary of corrections;

17 F. the secretary of public safety;

18 G. the secretary of children, youth and families;

19 H. the secretary of health;

20 I. the secretary of human services;

21 J. the executive director of the New Mexico
22 association of counties; and

23 K. the executive director of the New Mexico
24 municipal league; and

25 L. up to four additional members appointed by the

1 chair of the task force; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the criminal justice and
3 public safety task force present to the legislature a report
4 on its work, including its specific recommendations for
5 improvements to the state's criminal justice and public
6 safety systems, no later than October 15, 2018; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
8 transmitted to the speaker of the house of representatives;
9 the president pro tempore of the senate; the chief justice of
10 the supreme court of New Mexico; the governor; the attorney
11 general; the president of the New Mexico district attorneys
12 association; the chief public defender; the secretaries of
13 corrections, public safety, human services, children, youth
14 and families and health; the executive director of the New
15 Mexico association of counties; and the executive director of
16 the New Mexico municipal league.

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