

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE CRIME VICTIMS REPARATION COMMISSION TO CREATE
3 A TASK FORCE TO REVIEW AND UPDATE THE FAMILY VIOLENCE
4 PROTECTION ACT.

5
6 WHEREAS, domestic violence is a pervasive and harrowing
7 experience that affects a large number of New Mexicans; and

8 WHEREAS, there were approximately nineteen thousand
9 reports of domestic violence by law enforcement in New Mexico
10 in 2018, as reported by the program evaluation unit of the
11 legislative finance committee in October 2019; and

12 WHEREAS, the Family Violence Protection Act is primarily
13 geared toward protecting the rights of victims of domestic
14 violence; and

15 WHEREAS, under the Family Violence Protection Act, an
16 act of domestic violence involves household members in
17 incidences of physical harm, severe emotional distress,
18 bodily injury or assault and criminal trespassing, among
19 other incidents; and

20 WHEREAS, the crime victims reparation commission
21 provides financial assistance to victims of violent crime
22 with expenses incurred as a result of their victimization;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, the crime victims reparation commission works
25 to assist victims by administering the crime victims'

1 compensation program, which includes victims of domestic
2 violence, and convenes the New Mexico intimate partner
3 violence death review team, also known as the domestic
4 violence homicide review team, and has a strong
5 administrative staff; and

6 WHEREAS, the Family Violence Protection Act was enacted
7 in 1987 and was last updated in 1999;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
9 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the crime victims reparation
10 commission be requested to convene an inclusive task force to
11 review the Family Violence Protection Act and to propose
12 updates to the act; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the director of the crime
14 victims reparation commission be requested to include the
15 following participants or their representatives in the task
16 force:

17 A. the children, youth and families department
18 domestic violence programs coordinator;

19 B. family court judges;

20 C. the family law section of the state bar of
21 New Mexico;

22 D. the New Mexico coalition against domestic
23 violence;

24 E. the administrative office of the courts;

25 F. representatives of law enforcement; and

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G. representatives of other agencies working on domestic violence issues, drawing on the expertise of governmental organizations and nonprofit service providers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that findings and recommendations of the task force be presented to the interim legislative committee that deals with courts, corrections and justice issues by December 1, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the governor, the secretary of children, youth and families, the executive director of the New Mexico coalition against domestic violence and the director of the administrative office of the courts. _____