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SENATE MEMORIAL 50

54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020

INTRODUCED BY

Antoinette Sedillo Lopez

A MEMORIAL

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, under the Family Violence Protection Act, an act
of domestic violence involves household members in incidences

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1 of physical harm, severe emotional distress, bodily injury or
2 assault and criminal trespassing, among other incidents; and

3 WHEREAS, the crime victims reparation commission provides
4 financial assistance to victims of violent crime with expenses
5 incurred as a result of their victimization; and

6 WHEREAS, the crime victims reparation commission works to
7 assist victims by administering the crime victims' compensation
8 program, which includes victims of domestic violence, and
9 convenes the New Mexico intimate partner violence review team,
10 also known as the domestic violence homicide review team, and
11 has a strong administrative staff; and

12 WHEREAS, the Family Violence Protection Act was enacted in
13 1987 and was last updated in 1999;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
15 OF NEW MEXICO that the crime victims reparation commission be
16 requested to convene an inclusive a task force to review the
17 Family Violence Protection Act and to propose updates to the
18 act; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the director of the crime
20 victims reparation commission be requested to include the
21 following participants or their representatives in the task
22 force:

23 A. the children, youth and families department
24 domestic violence programs coordinator;

25 B. family court judges;

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- 1 C. the family law section of the state bar of New
- 2 Mexico;
- 3 D. the New Mexico coalition against domestic
- 4 violence;
- 5 E. the administrative office of the courts;
- 6 F. representatives of law enforcement; and
- 7 G. representatives of other agencies working on
- 8 domestic violence issues, drawing on the expertise of
- 9 governmental organizations and nonprofit service providers; and

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

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