

1 HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 2

2 **57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO CONVENE A TASK
12 FORCE TO STUDY COMBINING STANDING AND INTERIM COMMITTEES INTO
13 COMMITTEES THAT FUNCTION DURING THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION AND THE
14 INTERIM.
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16 WHEREAS, there were twenty-six standing committees for the
17 2024 regular session; and

18 WHEREAS, the house of representatives had seventeen
19 standing committees for the 2024 regular session, including the
20 agriculture, acequias and water resources committee, the
21 appropriations and finance committee, the commerce and economic
22 development committee, the consumer and public affairs
23 committee, the education committee, the energy, environment and
24 natural resources committee, the government, elections and
25 Indian affairs committee, the health and human services

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1 committee, the judiciary committee, the labor, veterans' and
2 military affairs committee, the rural development, land grants
3 and cultural affairs committee, the taxation and revenue
4 committee, the transportation, public works and capital
5 improvements committee, the printing and supplies committee,
6 the rules and order of business committee, the enrolling and
7 engrossing A committee and the enrolling and engrossing B
8 committee; and

9 WHEREAS, the senate had nine standing committees for the
10 2024 regular session, including the conservation committee, the
11 education committee, the finance committee, the health and
12 public affairs committee, the Indian, rural and cultural
13 affairs committee, the judiciary committee, the rules
14 committee, the tax, business and transportation committee and
15 the committees' committee; and

16 WHEREAS, there were twenty-four interim committees for the
17 2024 legislative interim, including the New Mexico legislative
18 council, the legislative education study committee, the
19 legislative finance committee, the capitol buildings planning
20 commission, the courts, corrections and justice committee, the
21 economic and rural development and policy committee, the Indian
22 affairs committee, the interim legislative ethics committee,
23 the investments and pensions oversight committee, the land
24 grant committee, the legislative health and human services
25 committee, the military and veterans' affairs committee, the

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1 Mortgage Finance Authority Act oversight committee, the New
2 Mexico finance authority oversight committee, the public school
3 capital outlay oversight task force, the radioactive and
4 hazardous materials committee, the revenue stabilization and
5 tax policy committee, the science, technology and
6 telecommunications committee, the tobacco settlement revenue
7 oversight committee, the water and natural resources committee,
8 the transportation infrastructure revenue subcommittee, the
9 senate rules committee, the commission on uniform state laws
10 and the educational commission of the states; and

11 WHEREAS, interim committees are created by the New Mexico
12 legislative council and pursuant to statute and the
13 constitution of New Mexico; and

14 WHEREAS, having the same committees function during the
15 legislative session and the interim could increase the
16 efficiency of the legislative process, provide a clearer
17 demarcation and reduce overlap of subject matter, allow for
18 continuity in membership and staffing, provide for more
19 uniformity in references to committees in the law and make
20 endorsements of legislation during the interim more meaningful;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
22 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council be
23 requested to convene an eleven-member task force to review and
24 study combining the standing and interim committees into
25 committees that function during the legislative session and the

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1 interim; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico legislative
3 council be requested to appoint four members from the house of
4 representatives with two members from the majority party and
5 two members from the minority party, four members from the
6 senate with two members from the majority party and two members
7 from the minority party and three public members who have
8 expertise in legislative affairs to the task force; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico legislative
10 council be requested to appoint a chair of the task force; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico legislative
12 council be requested to appoint three people from the
13 legislative council service to staff the task force and prepare
14 the report; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to
16 include in its study consideration of how standing and interim
17 committees could be combined into year-round committees, the
18 staffing needs of combined committees, administration and
19 funding of the combined committees, the legislation needed to
20 combine the committees, the number of combined committees
21 needed, each committee's area of subject matter and how the
22 changes could be implemented in 2027; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to
24 issue a report of its findings and recommendations to the
25 members of the New Mexico legislative council and the director

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1 of the legislative council service by November 30, 2025; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
3 transmitted to the co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative
4 council and the directors of the legislative council service,
5 legislative finance committee and legislative education study
6 committee.

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