A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT A TASK FORCE BE APPOINTED TO STUDY AND DEVELOP
A SYSTEM OF COMPENSATION FOR MUNICIPAL JUDGES.

WHEREAS, the supreme court of New Mexico has ruled that
municipal courts are an independent branch of government
similar to the judicial branch of state government; and

WHEREAS, in municipalities with a population over ten
thousand, the municipal court has a caseload approximating
that of a magistrate judge in those counties; and

WHEREAS, the size of the court and the number of court
employees vary greatly among the municipalities with a
population over ten thousand; and

WHEREAS, the budgets of municipal courts are dependent
upon the action of the governing bodies of the municipalities;
and

.128062.1

1   WHEREAS, municipal judges in municipalities with a

2   population over ten thousand are required to operate a court

3   in a manner similar to that of a magistrate court;

4   NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE

5   STATE OF NEW MEXICO that a task force be formed to study and

6   develop recommendations for a system of compensation for

7   municipal judges in municipalities with a population of more

8   than ten thousand and that the study consider such factors as

9   caseload, court size, budgets and populations served for

10   municipal courts compared with those for comparable magistrate

11   courts; and

12   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force consist of the

13   president of the New Mexico municipal judges association, the

14   president of the New Mexico municipal league and two

15   additional members appointed by each president; and

16   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be

17   transmitted to the New Mexico municipal league and to the New

18   Mexico municipal judges association.

- 2 -

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

.128062.1

FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION, 1999

March 11, 1999

Mr. President:

Your **RULES COMMITTEE**, to whom has been referred

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 58

has had it under consideration and reports same with

recommendation that it **DO PASS**.

Respectfully submitted,

_____

Gloria Howes, Co-Chair

.128062.1

- 3 -

Adopted_____ Not

Adopted_____

1   (Chief Clerk)   (Chief Clerk)

2

3

4

5   Date _____

6

7

8 The roll call vote was _5_ For _0_ Against

9 Yes: 5

10 No: 0

11 Excused: Adair, Altamirano, Gorham

12 Absent: None

13

14

15 SJ058RU1

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

.128062.1

- 4 -