

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 6

**47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2006**

INTRODUCED BY

Thomas C. Taylor

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE ADOPTION OF APPROPRIATE PHYSICAL FITNESS  
STANDARDS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.

WHEREAS, the New Mexico law enforcement academy board enforces the regulations and standards for qualifying law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, the current New Mexico physical fitness standards, contained in the New Mexico Administrative Code, were taken from previous Cooper institute "percentile" standards that are now outdated and that pose problems if used as a mandatory standard for selection, training or maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the Cooper institute has rejected its own "percentile" rankings since those rankings do not predict ability to do the job and do not demonstrate criterion

underscoring material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1 validity; and

2 WHEREAS, with the required emphasis on job relatedness  
3 brought about by the federal Civil Rights Act of 1991 and by  
4 the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, age- and  
5 gender-based norms, as mandatory standards, are no longer  
6 recommended by the Cooper Institute; and

7 WHEREAS, according to the Cooper institute, New Mexico's  
8 physical fitness standards are age- and gender-adjusted and,  
9 thus, conflict with present law; and

10 WHEREAS, New Mexico regulations are silent on any  
11 association between physical fitness standards and the jobs to  
12 which they must relate; and

13 WHEREAS, New Mexico makes no provision for certification  
14 reciprocity with other states in the matter of out-of-state  
15 peace officer hires; and

16 WHEREAS, forty-eight states have adopted new standards  
17 that have been found to be predictive of job performance;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
19 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico law enforcement academy  
20 board be requested to adopt new physical fitness standards for  
21 law enforcement officers; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
23 transmitted to the New Mexico law enforcement academy board,  
24 the department of public safety and the New Mexico Law  
25 enforcement academy.

.159006.1