

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 6

2 **50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Pete Campos

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, IN COORDINATION
12 WITH FEDERAL EFFORTS, TO CREATE A GANG REDUCTION, INTERVENTION
13 AND PREVENTION PROGRAM TO CONSOLIDATE AND CENTRALIZE STATEWIDE
14 EFFORTS ON GANG ACTIVITY.

15
16 WHEREAS, the 2008 United States department of justice
17 national gang intelligence center report shows that criminal
18 gangs in the United States have swelled to an estimated one
19 million members and are responsible for up to eighty percent of
20 crimes committed in communities across the nation; and

21 WHEREAS, the national gang intelligence center estimates
22 that there are six hundred eighty gangs with approximately
23 thirteen thousand eight hundred members in New Mexico; and

24 WHEREAS, there are approximately five to seven gang
25 members per one thousand residents in New Mexico, making it one

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1 of the top five states per capita in gang membership in the
2 nation; and

3 WHEREAS, there are approximately four to six gang members
4 per every law enforcement officer in New Mexico, the third
5 highest ratio in the nation; and

6 WHEREAS, according to the United States department of
7 justice bureau of justice statistics, fifty percent of all
8 crimes committed in Bernalillo county are gang related; and

9 WHEREAS, in March 2008, *Crime State Rankings 2008* listed
10 New Mexico as the third most dangerous state in the country;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, there is a large influx of gang members from
13 other states to New Mexico;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
15 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of public safety be
16 requested to create a gang reduction, intervention and
17 prevention program to consolidate and centralize statewide
18 efforts and resources for prevention, intervention and
19 suppression of gang activity; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the program reflect current
21 best practices and findings of the national gang intelligence
22 center and other federal efforts to address gang activity; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
24 transmitted to the secretary of public safety.