

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE REGULATION AND LICENSING DEPARTMENT TO CONVENE
3 A TASK FORCE TO ASSESS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR UPDATING
4 THE LIQUOR CONTROL ACT.

5
6 WHEREAS, over three decades have passed since the Liquor
7 Control Act underwent a major review and reformation; and

8 WHEREAS, the public's needs have changed over the past
9 three decades with the advent of the electronic age,
10 modernized business practices and changes in social norms, and
11 an increase in alcohol awareness; and

12 WHEREAS, alcoholism and driving under the influence of
13 alcohol continue to threaten the state's health, safety,
14 welfare and morals; and

15 WHEREAS, promoting economic development while still
16 ensuring the public's health, safety, welfare and morals is of
17 the utmost importance for the legislature; and

18 WHEREAS, the alcohol and gaming division of the
19 regulation and licensing department is responsible for
20 administering the laws related to the issuance, sale and
21 transfer of new liquor licenses and alcohol server permits in
22 the state; and

23 WHEREAS, the special investigations division of the
24 department of public safety is currently responsible for
25 enforcing the complex laws related to the sale and service of

1 alcohol in the state; and

2 WHEREAS, law enforcement is intimately aware of the
3 issues related to the state's high rate of convictions for
4 driving under the influence;

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
6 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the regulation and licensing
7 department be requested to convene a task force to undertake a
8 comprehensive review of the Liquor Control Act and make
9 recommendations to the legislature regarding amendments to
10 update the Liquor Control Act to better meet the needs of the
11 public; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force include
13 representatives from industries covered by the Liquor Control
14 Act, including but not limited to hospitality, tourism,
15 restaurants, retailers, petroleum retailers, grocers, brewers
16 and distillers, wineries and wholesalers; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force include
18 representatives from any other groups that may have an
19 interest in amending the Liquor Control Act, including the DWI
20 resource center, mothers against drunk driving, the
21 New Mexico municipal league and the New Mexico association of
22 counties, as well as representatives from law enforcement, the
23 special investigations division of the department of public
24 safety, the alcohol and gaming division of the regulation and
25 licensing department, organizations involved with alcohol

1 abuse prevention and underage drinking prevention and
2 interested citizens; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be
4 geographically diverse to ensure that voices are heard from
5 around the state; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested
7 to report its findings and recommendations to the appropriate
8 legislative interim committees by November 1, 2014; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
10 transmitted to the superintendent of regulation and licensing,
11 for distribution to members of the task force, and to the
12 co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative council.

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