

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 5

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2018

INTRODUCED BY

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A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ADMINISTRATION COMMISSION AN INDEPENDENT STUDY IN 2018 AND AT LEAST EVERY FIVE YEARS THEREAFTER TO REVIEW OTHER STATES' WORKERS' COMPENSATION TRENDS AND INITIATIVES AND TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION SYSTEM IN NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, workers are the backbone of state industry and commerce, and workers' compensation benefits are needed to compensate workers injured on the job and to enable them to return to work; and

WHEREAS, each year, the workers' compensation administration studies data on workplace injuries and workers' compensation benefits paid in the state and reports on its findings; and

WHEREAS, the workers' compensation administration's access .209302.2

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1 to information on national trends in workers' compensation
2 issues and other states' responses to those issues would enable
3 it to improve New Mexico's schedule and implementation of
4 workers' compensation benefits;

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
6 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the workers' compensation
7 administration be requested to commission in 2018 an
8 independent study in which information on national trends in
9 workers' compensation issues and other states' responses to
10 those issues, including information on such topics as return-
11 to-work issues, opiate-use issues and the effects of
12 posttraumatic stress disorder claims, is collected and in which
13 related recommendations are developed; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the workers' compensation
15 administration be requested to report the findings and
16 recommendations of that study to the appropriate legislative
17 interim committees on or before December 1, 2018; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the workers' compensation
19 administration be requested to commission follow-up studies to
20 that study at least every five years thereafter and to report
21 on the findings and recommendations of those studies to the
22 legislative finance committee on or before December 1 of the
23 year in which the study is conducted; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
25 transmitted to the governor, the director of the workers'

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1 compensation administration, the director of the risk
2 management division of the general services department and the
3 director of the legislative council service.

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