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SENATE MEMORIAL 25

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

INTRODUCED BY

Elizabeth "Liz" Stefanics and Jeff Steinborn

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE MOTOR VEHICLE DIVISION OF THE TAXATION AND REVENUE DEPARTMENT TO REPORT ON THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF EASY-TO-UNDERSTAND GUIDELINES FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NEW MEXICO DRIVER'S LICENSES, DRIVING AUTHORIZATION CARDS AND REAL-ID-COMPLIANT AND NON-REAL-ID-COMPLIANT IDENTIFICATION CARDS.

WHEREAS, in 2016, the legislature passed and the governor signed a law aiming to bring New Mexico into compliance with the federal REAL ID Act of 2005 with a two-tier driver's license structure; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, meetings of many stakeholder groups around the state and the taxation and revenue department convened and agreed upon some standards that could clarify the process for those individuals having problems with the rollout

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1 of the two-tier licensing scheme in New Mexico; and

2 WHEREAS, the taxation and revenue department and those
3 people applying for driver's licenses, driving authorization
4 cards and REAL-ID-compliant and non-REAL-ID-compliant
5 identification cards have continued to face difficulties and
6 challenges with the implementation of the new provisions of the
7 Motor Vehicle Code and rules promulgated by the taxation and
8 revenue department in that effort; and

9 WHEREAS, there is still statewide and widespread confusion
10 about what documents are required and accepted by the federal
11 government and the taxation and revenue department for the
12 issuance of driver's licenses, driving authorization cards and
13 REAL-ID-compliant and non-REAL-ID-compliant identification
14 cards; and

15 WHEREAS, senior citizens, especially those of the World
16 War II era and older; adopted individuals; residents of rural
17 areas; those with mobility limitations; Native Americans;
18 homeless people; immigrants, both newly arrived and
19 long-established; and individuals with expired or lost
20 documents have faced obstacles when applying for or renewing
21 their state-issued documents; and

22 WHEREAS, deadlines and implementation guidelines imposed
23 by the federal government regarding the federal REAL ID Act of
24 2005 have changed repeatedly, with some changes made as
25 recently as January 2018, which has added more confusion to the

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1 process; and

2 WHEREAS, the taxation and revenue department and all of
3 the people of New Mexico would benefit from a streamlined and
4 easy-to-understand process for the application for and issuance
5 of New Mexico driver's licenses, driving authorization cards
6 and REAL-ID-compliant and non-REAL-ID-compliant identification
7 cards;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
9 OF NEW MEXICO that the taxation and revenue department be
10 requested to report back to the interim legislative health and
11 human services committee and other appropriate interim
12 committees no later than August 2018 to provide a report with
13 an update on implementation of changes since 2017 and changes
14 in deadlines and guidelines issued by the federal government
15 regarding the REAL ID Act of 2005; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that parties representing New
17 Mexico's senior citizens, especially those of the World War II
18 era and older; adopted individuals; residents of rural areas;
19 those with mobility limitations; homeless people; immigrants,
20 both newly arrived and long-established; and individuals with
21 expired or lost documents who have faced obstacles when
22 applying for or renewing their state-issued documents be able
23 to report to the same legislative committees on continued
24 problems or perceived solutions; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be

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1 transmitted to the governor, the secretary of taxation and
2 revenue and the co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative
3 council.

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