

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 11

**54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019**

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO ASSIGN AN  
INTERIM COMMITTEE TO STUDY PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE  
REDUCTION IN CABINET DEPARTMENTS AND TO MAKE FURTHER  
RECOMMENDATIONS.

WHEREAS, in December 2009, Governor Bill Richardson  
appointed a committee on government efficiency and requested  
recommendations on efficiency measures that could be taken in  
the 2010 legislative session to reduce governmental  
expenditures by at least fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000);  
and

WHEREAS, the committee on government efficiency used the  
following criteria for evaluating cost-saving opportunities:  
the amount of money to be saved if adopted, ease and timing of  
implementation, mandatory obligations, economic impact of

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

1 implementing change, span of control and agency size and better  
2 alignment with corresponding or related federal agencies; and

3 WHEREAS, the 2009 committee on government efficiency  
4 recommended the need for consolidation of certain agencies and  
5 the elimination or reduction of redundant, duplicative and  
6 overlapping programs and services; and

7 WHEREAS, during the 2010 regular legislative session,  
8 House Bill 237 was passed, creating a government restructuring  
9 task force to further explore the findings from the 2009  
10 committee on government efficiency; and

11 WHEREAS, in December 2010, the government restructuring  
12 task force submitted its final report; and

13 WHEREAS, the government restructuring task force found  
14 that the proliferation of departments and agencies was a  
15 serious concern; and

16 WHEREAS, the government restructuring task force  
17 recommended eliminating, merging and realigning certain  
18 agencies for cost savings, efficiency and effectiveness; and

19 WHEREAS, several bills were introduced during the 2011  
20 legislative session to implement the government restructuring  
21 task force recommendations, but none of the bills passed; and

22 WHEREAS, during her term, Governor Susana Martinez  
23 discussed the consolidation of several departments, but no  
24 action was taken; and

25 WHEREAS, the need to look at cost-saving measures, such as

1 the elimination or consolidation of agencies in state  
2 government, is still relevant;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
4 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council be  
5 requested to assign an interim committee to study the previous  
6 recommendations of the 2010 government restructuring task force  
7 and to determine if its recommendations are relevant for  
8 further legislative action; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the interim committee assigned  
10 by the New Mexico legislative council request testimony from  
11 former legislators, former cabinet secretaries and others who  
12 currently or formerly worked in New Mexico state government in  
13 policy or decision-making positions; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the assigned interim committee  
15 be requested to issue a report on its findings and conclusions  
16 by October 31, 2019; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that duplicate copies of the report  
18 be filed with the legislative council service library; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
20 transmitted to the governor and the co-chairs of the New Mexico  
21 legislative council.