

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 13

2 **54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE INTERIM COMMITTEE THAT REVIEWS MATTERS
12 PERTAINING TO COURTS, CORRECTIONS AND JUSTICE ISSUES TO CONVENE
13 A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF STATEWIDE ADOPTION OF
14 THE USE OF DOCUMENT REDACTION SOFTWARE.

15
16 WHEREAS, the Inspection of Public Records Act is a series
17 of laws designed to guarantee that the public has access to
18 public records of governmental bodies; and

19 WHEREAS, anyone can request public records and no
20 statement of purpose is required; however, certain exemptions
21 apply that protect interests such as personal privacy, national
22 security and law enforcement; and

23 WHEREAS, public records provide notice to all members of
24 society of the official actions taken by governmental entities;
25 and

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1 WHEREAS, public officials and employees should strive to
2 ensure that all reasonable requests to inspect public records
3 are promptly and efficiently granted; and

4 WHEREAS, there is an increasing need to improve
5 government's use of technology in responding to records
6 requests and in making information available; and

7 WHEREAS, document redaction software exists that allows
8 for the electronic removal of specific information from a
9 document; and

10 WHEREAS, making public records accessible to people using
11 technology is a powerful way to arm people with the tools that
12 keep government accountable;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
14 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the interim committee that reviews
15 matters pertaining to courts, corrections and justice issues be
16 requested to convene a task force to study the feasibility of
17 statewide adoption of the use of document redaction software;
18 and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force include
20 representatives of the New Mexico foundation for open
21 government, the New Mexico press association, the New Mexico
22 broadcasters association, the society of professional
23 journalists, the office of the attorney general and other
24 relevant state agencies, members of state and local law
25 enforcement agencies and a representative of the department of

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1 public safety; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to
3 report its findings and conclusions to the interim legislative
4 committee that reviews matters pertaining to courts,
5 corrections and justice issues by October 1, 2019; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
7 transmitted to the co-chairs of the interim committee that
8 reviews matters pertaining to courts, corrections and justice
9 issues, the president of the New Mexico foundation for open
10 government, the executive director of the New Mexico press
11 association, the board chair of the New Mexico broadcasters
12 association, the region nine chapter of the society of
13 professional journalists, the attorney general and the
14 secretary of public safety.