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SENATE MEMORIAL 15

55TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2022

INTRODUCED BY

Brenda G. McKenna

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO TO CONVENE A COUNTY
REDISTRICTING TASK FORCE TO STUDY AND DEVELOP RECOMMENDED
PROCEDURES FOR THE REDISTRICTING PROCESS FOR NEW MEXICO
COUNTIES FOLLOWING THE 2030 CENSUS.

WHEREAS, counties in New Mexico have been implementing
redistricting plans about which concerns have been raised,
including concerns about possible advantages for incumbents and
issues pertaining to possible voter disenfranchisement; and

WHEREAS, concerns have been raised that local communities
are being divided in ways that do not support long-established
geographical relationships and that boundaries have been drawn
to cluster groups that have not been previously connected; and

WHEREAS, Indian nations, tribes and pueblos within county
boundaries have not consistently been solicited for input to

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

1 allow the varying, non-homogeneous needs of these different
2 communities to be adequately represented; and

3 WHEREAS, representative government requires meaningful
4 public engagement and voter input into the redistricting
5 process;

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
7 OF NEW MEXICO that the university of New Mexico be requested to
8 convene a county redistricting task force to develop concrete
9 recommendations to review and analyze current changes made
10 within each county's redistricting efforts and to standardize
11 the processes and rules by which redistricting takes place in
12 counties; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be composed of
14 elected officials and community leaders of different
15 populations within the counties; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to
17 hold public meetings to receive public input; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force make
19 recommendations for legislation to the appropriate interim
20 legislative committees and to the legislature during the 2024
21 regular legislative session; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
23 transmitted to the chairs of the appropriate interim
24 legislative committees, the president of the university of New
25 Mexico and the secretary of state.

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