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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 39

44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1999

INTRODUCED BY

L. Skip Vernon

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE JUDICIARY TO ISSUE THE MAXIMUM SENTENCE TO
PERSONS CONVICTED OF HATE CRIMES.

WHEREAS, Congress has defined a hate crime as "a crime in
which the defendant intentionally selects a victim . . .
because of the actual or perceived race, color, national
origin, ethnicity, gender, disability or sexual orientation of
any person"; and

WHEREAS, the legislature of the state of New Mexico
abhors the commission of hate crimes committed in the state of
New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, all crimes, and especially hate crimes, demand
proper response by our criminal justice system;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
STATE OF NEW MEXICO that our state judiciary, if it determines

underscored material = new
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1 that a crime is committed because of the actual or perceived
2 race, color, national origin, ethnicity, gender, disability or
3 sexual orientation of a victim, impose the maximum allowable
4 statutory sentence when sentencing a person who has committed
5 such a crime; and

6 BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
7 transmitted to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.