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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 16

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

INTRODUCED BY

Daymon Ely and Patricia A. Lundstrom

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE NEW MEXICO SUPREME COURT TO  
CONVENE A CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY TASK FORCE TO  
IDENTIFY ISSUES OF PRIMARY CONCERN WITHIN THE STATE'S CRIMINAL  
JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY SYSTEM AND TO DEVELOP A STRATEGIC  
PLAN TO AMELIORATE THOSE CONCERNS.

WHEREAS, the crime rates in New Mexico have continued to  
increase over the past several years, and the rate of property  
crime in Albuquerque is the highest in the country; and

WHEREAS, most of the public safety concerns facing the  
state are linked to substance use, behavioral health concerns  
and strained criminal justice agency budgets; and

WHEREAS, it is critical that the state address issues  
within the criminal justice system, which will involve  
evaluating and identifying the areas most in need of support

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1 within early childhood intervention programs; law enforcement;  
2 prosecutor's and public defender's offices; the courts;  
3 corrections facilities and county jails; and the behavioral  
4 health care system, among others;

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
6 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the chief justice of the New Mexico  
7 supreme court be requested to convene, by April 1, 2018, a  
8 criminal justice and public safety task force to identify the  
9 issues of primary concern within the state's criminal justice  
10 and public safety system and to develop a strategic plan to  
11 ameliorate those concerns, including measurable outcomes to  
12 help ensure that public investments in improvements to that  
13 system are as efficient and effective as possible; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the criminal justice and  
15 public safety task force be composed of the following members:

16 A. a representative of the courts, appointed by the  
17 chief justice of the New Mexico supreme court, to serve as the  
18 chair of the task force;

19 B. the attorney general;

20 C. the president of the New Mexico district  
21 attorneys association;

22 D. the chief public defender;

23 E. the secretary of corrections;

24 F. the secretary of public safety;

25 G. the secretary of children, youth and families;

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1 H. the secretary of health;  
2 I. the secretary of human services;  
3 J. the executive director of the New Mexico  
4 association of counties; and

5 K. the executive director of the New Mexico  
6 municipal league; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the criminal justice and  
8 public safety task force present to the legislature a report on  
9 its work, including its specific recommendations for  
10 improvements to the state's criminal justice and public safety  
11 systems, no later than October 15, 2018; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
13 transmitted to the speaker of the house of representatives; the  
14 president pro tempore of the senate; the chief justice of the  
15 supreme court of New Mexico; the governor; the attorney  
16 general; the president of the New Mexico district attorneys  
17 association; the chief public defender; the secretaries of  
18 corrections, public safety, human services, children, youth and  
19 families and health; the executive director of the New Mexico  
20 association of counties; and the executive director of the New  
21 Mexico municipal league.

