

1 SENATE BILL 455

2 **56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2023**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Jeff Steinborn

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10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY; AMENDING THE SEARCH AND RESCUE ACT
12 TO REQUIRE THE RISK MANAGEMENT DIVISION OF THE GENERAL SERVICES
13 DEPARTMENT TO MAINTAIN AN INSURANCE POLICY THAT COVERS SEARCH
14 AND RESCUE VOLUNTEERS.

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16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

17 SECTION 1. Section 24-15A-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978,
18 Chapter 107, Section 1) is amended to read:

19 "24-15A-1. SHORT TITLE.--~~[This act]~~ Chapter 24, Article
20 15A NMSA 1978 may be cited as the "Search and Rescue Act"."

21 SECTION 2. A new section of the Search and Rescue Act is
22 enacted to read:

23 "[NEW MATERIAL] INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE
24 VOLUNTEERS.--The risk management division of the general
25 services department shall maintain an accident insurance policy

.224885.2

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

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

1 that covers search and rescue volunteers. The benefits of the
2 policy shall, at a minimum, include:

3 A. one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000)
4 for the accidental death or dismemberment of a search and
5 rescue volunteer that occurs during an authorized search and
6 rescue mission or training exercise; and

7 B. fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for medical
8 expenses related to injuries that search and rescue volunteers
9 incur during authorized search and rescue missions or training
10 exercises."