

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 4

2 **51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2014**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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5  
6 FOR THE NEW MEXICO FINANCE AUTHORITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

7  
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9  
10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THAT A TASK FORCE CONVENE TO STUDY APPROPRIATE WAYS  
12 FOR THE STATE TO PARTICIPATE IN BUILDING BROADBAND NETWORK  
13 INFRASTRUCTURE.

14  
15 WHEREAS, digital communications comprise an ever-growing  
16 proportion of day-to-day educational and commercial  
17 interactions; and

18 WHEREAS, increasingly, people's upward educational and  
19 economic mobility correlates to the degree of their access to a  
20 broadband communications network; and

21 WHEREAS, if all people in New Mexico had access to a  
22 broadband network, their opportunities for educational and  
23 economic advancement would grow and the state would develop  
24 economically; and

25 WHEREAS, some New Mexicans cannot access broadband

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1 technology because of deficiencies in network infrastructure;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, many parts of the state lack network  
4 infrastructure because it is not profitable for the private  
5 sector to develop that infrastructure in those regions; and

6 WHEREAS, the state should play an active role in  
7 developing underserved and unserved areas by forging broadband  
8 network connections where they currently need strengthening or  
9 where they do not exist; and

10 WHEREAS, several of New Mexico's universities are working  
11 with communities and collaborating with public utilities and  
12 commercial providers to improve the state's public broadband  
13 network;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
15 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that a task force be requested to study the  
16 appropriate role of the state in building broadband  
17 infrastructure so that all New Mexicans have access to a  
18 broadband network; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be composed of  
20 a representative of the legislative finance committee; a  
21 representative of the science, technology and  
22 telecommunications committee; a representative of the New  
23 Mexico finance authority; and experts in broadband technology  
24 infrastructure who represent the university of New Mexico, New  
25 Mexico state university and the New Mexico institute of mining

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1 and technology; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico legislative  
3 council appoint the legislative members of the working group;  
4 and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative finance  
6 committee, the science, technology and telecommunications  
7 committee and the New Mexico finance authority oversight  
8 committee be requested to hear testimony and receive  
9 recommendations from the task force and other experts in  
10 broadband technology; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
12 transmitted to the information technology departments and the  
13 boards of regents of the university of New Mexico, New Mexico  
14 state university and the New Mexico institute of mining and  
15 technology.

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