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SENATE MEMORIAL 77

51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2013

INTRODUCED BY

Phil A. Griego

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE REGULATION AND LICENSING DEPARTMENT TO CONVENE A
TASK FORCE TO ASSESS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR UPDATING THE
LIQUOR CONTROL ACT.

WHEREAS, over three decades have passed since the Liquor
Control Act underwent a major review and reformation; and

WHEREAS, the public's needs have changed over the past
three decades with the advent of the electronic age, modernized
business practices and changes in social mores, and an increase
in alcohol awareness; and

WHEREAS, alcoholism and driving under the influence of
alcohol continue to threaten the state's health, safety,
welfare and morals; and

WHEREAS, promoting economic development while still
ensuring the public's health, safety, welfare and morals is of

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1 the utmost importance for the legislature; and

2 WHEREAS, the alcohol and gaming division of the regulation
3 and licensing department is responsible for administering the
4 laws related to the issuance, sale and transfer of new liquor
5 licenses and alcohol server permits in the state; and

6 WHEREAS, the special investigations division of the
7 department of public safety is currently responsible for
8 enforcing the complex laws related to the sale and service of
9 alcohol in the state; and

10 WHEREAS, law enforcement is intimately aware of the issues
11 related to the state's high rate of convictions for driving
12 under the influence;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
14 OF NEW MEXICO that the regulation and licensing department be
15 requested to convene a task force to undertake a comprehensive
16 review of the Liquor Control Act and make recommendations to
17 the legislature regarding amendments to update the Liquor
18 Control Act to better meet the needs of the public; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force include
20 representatives from industries covered by the Liquor Control
21 Act, including but not limited to hospitality, tourism,
22 restaurants, retailers, petroleum retailers, grocers, brewers
23 and distillers, wineries and wholesalers; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force include
25 representatives from any other groups that may have an interest

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1 in amending the Liquor Control Act, including the DWI resource
2 center, mothers against drunk driving, the New Mexico municipal
3 league and the New Mexico association of counties, as well as
4 representatives from law enforcement, the special
5 investigations division of the department of public safety, the
6 alcohol and gaming division of the regulation and licensing
7 department and interested citizens; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be
9 geographically diverse to ensure that voices are heard from
10 around the state; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to
12 report its findings and recommendations to the appropriate
13 legislative interim committees by November 1, 2014; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
15 transmitted to the superintendent of regulation and licensing,
16 for distribution to members of the task force, and to the co-
17 chairs of the New Mexico legislative council.