A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE MOTOR VEHICLE DIVISION OF THE TAXATION AND REVENUE DEPARTMENT TO REPORT ON THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF EASY-TO-UNDERSTAND GUIDELINES FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NEW MEXICO DRIVER'S LICENSES, DRIVING AUTHORIZATION CARDS AND REAL-ID-COMPLIANT AND NON-REAL-ID-COMPLIANT IDENTIFICATION CARDS.

WHEREAS, in 2016, the legislature passed and the governor signed a law aiming to bring New Mexico into compliance with the federal REAL ID Act of 2005 with a two-tier driver's license structure; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, meetings of many stakeholder groups around the state and the taxation and revenue department convened and agreed upon some standards that could clarify the process for those individuals having problems with the rollout of the two-tier licensing scheme in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the taxation and revenue department and those people applying for driver's licenses, driving authorization cards and REAL-ID-compliant and non-REAL-ID-compliant identification cards have continued to face difficulties and challenges with the implementation of the new provisions of the Motor Vehicle Code and rules promulgated by the taxation and revenue department in that effort; and

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WHEREAS, there is still statewide and widespread confusion about what documents are required and accepted by the federal government and the taxation and revenue department for the issuance of driver's licenses, driving authorization cards and REAL-ID-compliant and non-REAL-ID-compliant identification cards; and

WHEREAS, senior citizens, especially those of the
World War II era and older; adopted individuals; residents of
rural areas; those with mobility limitations; Native
Americans; homeless people; immigrants, both newly arrived
and long-established; and individuals with expired or lost
documents have faced obstacles when applying for or renewing
their state-issued documents; and

WHEREAS, deadlines and implementation guidelines imposed by the federal government regarding the federal REAL ID Act of 2005 have changed repeatedly, with some changes made as recently as January 2018, which has added more confusion to the process; and

WHEREAS, the taxation and revenue department and all of the people of New Mexico would benefit from a streamlined and easy-to-understand process for the application for and issuance of New Mexico driver's licenses, driving authorization cards and REAL-ID-compliant and non-REAL-ID-compliant identification cards;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE

STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the taxation and revenue department be requested to report back to the interim legislative health and human services committee and other appropriate interim committees no later than August 2018 to provide a report with an update on implementation of changes since 2017 and changes in deadlines and guidelines issued by the federal government regarding the REAL ID Act of 2005; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that parties representing

New Mexico's senior citizens, especially those of the

World War II era and older; adopted individuals; residents of

rural areas; those with mobility limitations; homeless

people; immigrants, both newly arrived and long-established;

and individuals with expired or lost documents who have faced

obstacles when applying for or renewing their state-issued

documents be able to report to the same legislative

committees on continued problems or perceived solutions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the governor, the secretary of taxation and revenue and the co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative council.

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