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## SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 4

## 46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SPECIAL SESSION, 2003 INTRODUCED BY

Cisco McSorley

## A JOINT MEMORIAL

AFFIRMING CIVIL RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES AND DECLARING OPPOSITION
TO FEDERAL MEASURES THAT INFRINGE ON CIVIL LIBERTIES.

WHEREAS, the state of New Mexico is proud of its long and distinguished tradition of protecting the civil rights and liberties of its residents; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico has a diverse population, including immigrants and students, whose contributions to the community are vital to its economy, culture and civic character; and

WHEREAS, the preservation of civil rights and liberties is essential to the well-being of a democratic society; and

WHEREAS, federal, state and local governments should protect the public from terrorist attacks such as those that occurred on September 11, 2001 and should do so in a rational and deliberative fashion to ensure that new security measures

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will enhance public safety without impairing constitutional rights or infringing on civil liberties; and

WHEREAS, government security measures that undermine fundamental rights do damage to American institutions and values that the residents of New Mexico hold dear; and

WHEREAS, the legislature believes that there is no inherent conflict between national security and the preservation of liberty and that Americans can be both safe and free: and

WHEREAS, federal policies, laws, executive orders, regulations and actions threaten fundamental rights and liberties by:

- expanding the authority of federal agents to conduct so-called "sneak and peek" or "black bag" searches, in which the subject of the search warrant has not been notified that his or her property has been searched;
- granting federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies broad access to personal, medical, financial, library and educational records with little, if any, judicial oversight;
- driving a wedge between immigrant communities and the police that protect them by encouraging involvement of state and local police in the enforcement of federal immigration law;
- limiting the authority of federal courts to D. . 148488. 1

monitor law enforcement use of electronic surveillance in antiterrorism and ordinary investigations; and

E. allowing the federal bureau of investigation to conduct surveillance of community groups, internet chat rooms, political demonstrations and public meetings without evidence that a crime has been or may be committed; and

WHEREAS, other communities throughout the country have enacted resolutions reaffirming support for civil rights and civil liberties and have sought accountability from law enforcement agencies regarding their use of these new powers;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that:

- A. its strong support for fundamental constitutional rights and its opposition to federal measures that infringe on these rights and liberties be affirmed;
- B. its strong support for the rights of immigrants and opposition to measures that single out individuals for legal scrutiny or enforcement activity based on their country of origin be affirmed;
- C. the department of public safety be directed to discourage the New Mexico state police from:
- (1) engaging in the surveillance of individuals or groups of individuals based on their participation in activities protected by the First Amendment to the United States constitution, such as political advocacy or

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the practice of a religion, without reasonable and particularized suspicion of criminal conduct unrelated to the activity protected by the First Amendment to the United States constitution;

(2) using race, religion, ethnicity or

- (2) using race, religion, ethnicity or national origin as a factor in selecting who is subject to investigatory activities unless race, religion, ethnicity or national origin is part of the description of a specific suspect to be apprehended;
- enforcement officers, collecting or maintaining information about the political, religious or social views, associations or activities of any individual, group, association, organization, corporation, business or partnership unless such information directly relates to an investigation of criminal activity and there are reasonable grounds to believe that the subject of the information is or may be involved in criminal conduct;
- (4) the practice of stopping drivers or pedestrians for the purpose of scrutinizing their identification documents without reasonable and particularized suspicion of criminal activity; and
- (5) involvement in searches and seizures unless consistent with New Mexico laws and rules of court;
- D. public schools and institutions of higher education be directed to provide notice to individuals whose . 148488. 1

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education records have been obtained by law enforcement agents pursuant to Section 507 of the USA Patriot Act;

- public libraries be directed to post in a prominent place within the library a notice as follows: Under Section 215 of the federal USA Patriot Act "WARNI NG: (Public Law 107-56), records of books and other materials you borrow from this library may be obtained by federal agents. This law also prohibits librarians from informing you if records about you have been obtained by federal agents. Questions about this policy should be directed to Attorney General John Ashcroft, Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530. "; and
- F. the state official in charge of homeland security for New Mexico be directed to seek periodically from federal authorities information in a form that facilitates an assessment of the effect of federal antiterrorism efforts on the residents of the state of New Mexico and provide to the legislature and the interim corrections oversight and justice committee, no less than once every six months, a summary of the information obtained, and to make this report available to the public; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to Senators Jeff Bingaman and Pete Domenici and Representatives Tom Udall, Heather Wilson and Steve Pearce; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be

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transmitted to President George W. Bush and Attorney General John Ashcroft; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to the state official in charge of homeland security for New Mexico; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the department of public safety, the New Mexico state police and to all public schools, institutions of higher education and public libraries within the state of New Mexico.

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