

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THAT THE APPROPRIATE INTERIM LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
3 STUDY TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACCESS REFORM.
4

5 WHEREAS, there is a significant disparity between rates
6 charged by telecommunications carriers in New Mexico for
7 intrastate switched access services and rates charged by the
8 same carriers for interstate switched access services; and

9 WHEREAS, the intrastate switched access service rates
10 charged by some telecommunications carriers in New Mexico are
11 among the highest in the region of the country; and

12 WHEREAS, the high rates being charged for intrastate
13 switched access services have resulted in high rates in New
14 Mexico for intrastate long-distance services compared to
15 interstate long-distance services; and

16 WHEREAS, the high rates for intrastate switched access
17 services and for intrastate long-distance services may serve
18 as a deterrent to increased competition in the
19 telecommunications industry for some areas of New Mexico and
20 may deprive the public of access to advances in
21 telecommunications technology; and

22 WHEREAS, in passing both the New Mexico
23 Telecommunications Act and the New Mexico Rural
24 Telecommunications Act, the legislature mandates maintaining
25 the availability of access to telecommunications services at

1 affordable rates and of comparable long-distance service
2 rates for comparable markets and market areas; and

3 WHEREAS, in both the New Mexico Telecommunications Act
4 and the New Mexico Rural Telecommunications Act, the
5 legislature encourages competition in the telecommunications
6 industry, to the extent consistent with maintaining the
7 availability of access to telecommunications services at
8 affordable rates and of comparable long-distance service
9 rates, which allows public access to rapid advances in
10 telecommunications technology; and

11 WHEREAS, it is in the public interest for the
12 legislature and other interested and affected parties to
13 address the disparity in intrastate and interstate switched
14 access rates in an expeditious manner;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
16 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the legislative council direct the
17 appropriate interim legislative committee to study and
18 propose legislation to address the rate disparities for
19 intrastate and interstate switched access and long-distance
20 services provided by telecommunications providers in the
21 state; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as the appropriate interim
23 legislative committee considers changing current law to
24 ensure comparable rates, it should be mindful of the goals of
25 maintaining access to telecommunications services at

1 affordable rates, of encouraging competition and of
2 encouraging access to advances in telecommunications
3 technology; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the appropriate interim
5 legislative committee report its findings to the first
6 session of the forty-seventh legislature; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
8 transmitted to members of the legislative council and the
9 public regulation commission.

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