

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR'S HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISOR TO  
SPEARHEAD A COMMITTEE TO STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS  
REGARDING THE INTEROPERABILITY OF COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS IN  
NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, emergencies, including the September 11  
terrorist attacks, Hurricane Katrina, wildfires in New Mexico  
and other disasters, require coherent and effective  
communication among various local, tribal, state and federal  
emergency response agencies; and

WHEREAS, dependable and interoperable public safety  
communications infrastructure is critical to New Mexico's  
response to emergencies in order to ensure the safety of  
emergency response personnel and the safety of the public; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for public safety personnel  
from different agencies, disciplines and levels of government  
to communicate with each other effectively and efficiently so  
that they can coordinate their response to emergencies,  
minimize response time and maximize resources; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for a coordinated statewide  
approach to the establishment of an interoperable public  
safety and critical communications infrastructure network for  
the benefit of the public and local, tribal, state and federal  
emergency responders; and

WHEREAS, local, tribal, state and national leaders have consistently resolved to provide effective emergency response to all emergencies and disasters;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor's homeland security advisor be requested to spearhead and form a committee, including representatives from the first responder community, the chief information officer, the secretary of public safety, the secretary of general services and additional representatives from other sectors of local, tribal, state and federal stakeholders as identified by the homeland security advisor, to study the interoperability of local, tribal and state emergency communications systems in New Mexico and their interface with federal systems; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the homeland security advisor's interoperable communications study committee make recommendations to the governor and the legislature regarding resolution of the interoperability issues identified by the committee by October 1, 2007; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the governor, all executive branch agencies, the New Mexico municipal league, the New Mexico association of counties and the New Mexico federal executive board.