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HOUSE MEMORIAL 52

48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007

INTRODUCED BY

Miguel P. Garcia

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ADMINISTRATION TO CREATE A
TASK FORCE TO STUDY WHETHER TO ADD WORKERS' COMPENSATION
COVERAGE FOR FARM AND RANCH LABORERS.

WHEREAS, the workers' compensation administration is
charged with administering the workers' compensation laws of
this state; and

WHEREAS, current workers' compensation law applies to
employers of three or more workers in most cases; and

WHEREAS, current workers' compensation law allows an
exemption for farm and ranch laborers; and

WHEREAS, covering farm and ranch laborers could have a
significant fiscal impact for businesses and for the state; and

WHEREAS, eligibility for workers' compensation insurance
could have a significant impact on the farm and ranch laborers

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1 who are not currently covered;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the workers'
4 compensation administration be requested to create a task force
5 to study the fiscal and policy implications of adding farm and
6 ranch laborers to workers' compensation coverage; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the workers' compensation
8 administration create a task force of equal numbers of persons
9 who are actively engaged as farm and ranch business owners,
10 persons who are farm and ranch laborers and their advocates and
11 persons who are with the workers' compensation administration;
12 and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the workers' compensation
14 administration report to the appropriate interim committee the
15 conclusions and recommendations of the task force by November
16 2007 and draft appropriate legislation in response to the
17 conclusions of the task force; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
19 transmitted to the advisory council on workers' compensation
20 and occupational disease disablement compensation, the workers'
21 compensation administration, the secretary of labor and the
22 governor.