

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 38

2 **49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO CREATE A GANG
12 REDUCTION, INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION PROGRAM TO CONSOLIDATE
13 AND CENTRALIZE STATEWIDE EFFORTS ON GANG ACTIVITY.

14
15 WHEREAS, the 2008 United States department of justice
16 national gang intelligence center report shows that criminal
17 gangs in the United States have swelled to an estimated one
18 million members and are responsible for up to eighty percent of
19 crimes committed in communities across the nation; and

20 WHEREAS, the national gang intelligence center estimates
21 that there are six hundred eighty gangs with approximately
22 thirteen thousand eight hundred members in New Mexico; and

23 WHEREAS, there are approximately five to seven gang
24 members per one thousand residents in New Mexico, making it one
25 of the top five states per capita in gang membership in the

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1 nation; and

2 WHEREAS, there are approximately four to six gang members
3 per every law enforcement officer in New Mexico, the third
4 highest ratio in the nation; and

5 WHEREAS, according to the United States department of
6 justice bureau of justice statistics, fifty percent of all
7 crimes committed in Bernalillo county are gang related; and

8 WHEREAS, in March, 2008, *Crime State Rankings 2008* listed
9 New Mexico as the third most dangerous state in the country;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, there is a large influx of gang members from
12 other states to New Mexico;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
14 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of public safety be
15 requested to create a gang reduction, intervention and
16 prevention program to consolidate and centralize statewide
17 efforts and resources for prevention, intervention and
18 suppression of gang activity; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
20 transmitted to the secretary of public safety.

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