

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 27

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2010

INTRODUCED BY

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A JOINT MEMORIAL

DIRECTING THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SERVICE TO WEBCAST AND
ARCHIVE INTERIM COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

WHEREAS, legislative floor proceedings in forty-eight states, including New Mexico, are available to the public via internet streaming known as webcasts; and

WHEREAS, the bulk of any legislature's policymaking, but especially New Mexico's, is done in the committees that meet during and between the regular sessions; and

WHEREAS, it is difficult or impossible for most residents in a state as geographically large as New Mexico to travel the distances required and spend the time necessary to attend an interim committee meeting, whether that meeting is held in Santa Fe or in some other location; and

WHEREAS, the technology that makes internet streaming

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1 possible continues to evolve so rapidly that obstacles to
2 streaming such as cost, access and equipment can be easily
3 overcome, so it is only a matter of time before private
4 entities stream interim committee meetings, either free of
5 charge or for a fee to paying clients; and

6 WHEREAS, audio streaming of interim committee meetings in
7 the capitol can be offered at practically no cost and with
8 minimal additional staff effort; and

9 WHEREAS, live audio streaming of interim committee
10 meetings outside the capitol could be offered by purchasing
11 broadband access, which is currently available from cellular
12 telephone companies, and basic audio equipment; and

13 WHEREAS, live audio and video streaming of interim
14 committee meetings both inside and outside the capitol is
15 becoming less expensive and technologically easier to offer;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, it is in the legislature's interest to do
18 everything possible to ensure that New Mexicans have free and
19 easy access to the information presented at interim committee
20 meetings and to the deliberations of the committee members,
21 including through legislatively produced live and archived
22 audio and video streaming;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
24 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the legislative council service be
25 directed to offer live audio and video streaming and archiving

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1 of as many interim committee meetings as possible within
2 budgetary and technological constraints beginning with the 2010
3 interim; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
5 transmitted to the director of the legislative council service.

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