

1 A JOINT MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, IN COORDINATION  
3 WITH FEDERAL EFFORTS, TO CREATE A GANG REDUCTION,  
4 INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION PROGRAM TO CONSOLIDATE AND  
5 CENTRALIZE STATEWIDE EFFORTS ON GANG ACTIVITY.

6  
7 WHEREAS, the 2008 United States department of justice  
8 national gang intelligence center report shows that criminal  
9 gangs in the United States have swelled to an estimated one  
10 million members and are responsible for up to eighty percent  
11 of crimes committed in communities across the nation; and

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

15 WHEREAS, there are approximately five to seven gang  
16 members per one thousand residents in New Mexico, making it  
17 one of the top five states per capita in gang membership in  
18 the nation; and

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

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

25 WHEREAS, in March 2008, *Crime State Rankings 2008* listed

1 New Mexico as the third most dangerous state in the country;  
2 and

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

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
6 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of public safety be  
7 requested to create a gang reduction, intervention and  
8 prevention program to consolidate and centralize statewide  
9 efforts and resources for prevention, intervention and  
10 suppression of gang activity; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the program reflect current  
12 best practices and findings of the national gang intelligence  
13 center and other federal efforts to address gang activity;  
14 and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
16 transmitted to the secretary of public safety. \_\_\_\_\_

17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25