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HOUSE MEMORIAL 59

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011

INTRODUCED BY

Thomas A. Anderson

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TO
STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE FEASIBILITY OF ENACTING
LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH A BUSINESS INCUBATOR PROGRAM FOR
VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESSES.

WHEREAS, of the more than one hundred seventy-five
thousand veterans in New Mexico, approximately eight percent
own a business; and

WHEREAS, in January 2011, approximately seventeen percent
of New Mexico's veterans were unemployed, which is almost twice
the state unemployment rate; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, despite signs of economic recovery, job
growth in New Mexico declined, resulting in more job losses;
and

WHEREAS, Governor Martinez has acknowledged the importance

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1 of encouraging small business growth to create jobs; and

2 WHEREAS, after leaving the military, veterans often
3 experience a difficult time fitting back into normal day-to-day
4 activities, which results in an increased rate of suicide and
5 homelessness among veterans; and

6 WHEREAS, it is well-known that the response and support
7 that veterans receive when they return from war has a
8 significant impact on their transition back into society; and

9 WHEREAS, helping veterans create and grow businesses could
10 reduce the stress for veterans of integrating back into society
11 and could benefit other New Mexicans by creating jobs;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
13 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the military
14 and veterans' affairs committee be requested to work with the
15 veterans' services department and the economic development
16 department to study the feasibility of enacting legislation to
17 establish a business incubator program to foster the creation
18 of veteran-owned businesses, lower veteran unemployment rates
19 and increase jobs for New Mexicans; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the military and veterans'
21 affairs committee report its findings, conclusions and
22 recommendations for legislation to the legislature by November
23 2011; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
25 transmitted to the military and veterans' affairs committee for

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further distribution.