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HOUSE BILL 90

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2012

INTRODUCED BY

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AN ACT

RELATING TO LEGISLATIVE INTERIM COMMITTEES; ESTABLISHING A
PILOT PROJECT TO DETERMINE THE EFFICACY OF ALLOWING COMMITTEE
MEMBERS TO ATTEND COMMITTEE MEETINGS BY VIDEOCONFERENCE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**SECTION 1. TEMPORARY PROVISION--LEGISLATIVE INTERIM
COMMITTEES--VIDEOCONFERENCING PILOT PROJECT.--**

A. The New Mexico legislative council, in
conjunction with interim committee chairpersons, shall
establish a pilot project to determine the efficacy of allowing
committee members to attend meetings by real-time
videoconference when meetings are held at the state capitol or
other location at which acceptable videoconferencing capability
is readily available. The New Mexico legislative council shall
ask at least five interim committees to participate in the

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1 pilot project. The New Mexico legislative council, in
2 conjunction with the chairpersons of the selected committees,
3 shall determine:

4 (1) whether participation should be limited to
5 advisory members;

6 (2) whether there should be limits on the
7 number of members participating by videoconference at any one
8 meeting;

9 (3) the acceptable quality of necessary
10 hardware and software to ensure that other committee members
11 and the public attending a committee meeting can see and hear
12 videoconferencing members; and

13 (4) whether there should be other restrictions
14 on participation to ensure that the quality of committee
15 meetings is not negatively affected.

16 B. Videoconferencing committee members shall not
17 receive per diem and mileage expenses for attendance at a
18 meeting through videoconferencing.

19 C. The legislative council service shall manage the
20 pilot project and shall report to the New Mexico legislative
21 council by December 31, 2012 on the success of the pilot
22 project, including findings and recommendations. The
23 legislative council service shall survey committee members and
24 the public to determine if the dynamic of committee meetings is
25 negatively affected by members participating via technological

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1 interface. Among its findings, the legislative council service
2 shall provide detailed information on the need for hardware and
3 software upgrades to the state capitol to make
4 videoconferencing successful for committees and the public.

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