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AN ACT
RELATING TO GENDER-NEUTRAL LANGUAGE IN LEGISLATIVE DOCUMENTS;
REQUIRING THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SERVICE TO USE
GENDER-NEUTRAL LANGUAGE IN CERTAIN SITUATIONS.

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

SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE DOCUMENTS--GENDER-NEUTRAL
LANGUAGE--LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SERVICE.--

A. As used in this section:

(1) "gender-neutral" means language that
does not expressly or implicitly refer to one gender to the
real or apparent exclusion of the other and expressly or
implicitly refers to both genders without distinguishing
between them; and

(2) "gender-specific" means language that
expressly or implicitly refers to one gender to the real or
apparent exclusion of the other or expressly or implicitly
refers to both genders and distinguishes between them.

B. Except as limited in Subsection C of this
section, the legislative council service shall use
gender-neutral language in drafting bills to enact, amend or
revise laws and in drafting memorials, resolutions and other
legislative documents; provided that gender-neutral language
shall not be used if language is intended or required to be
gender-specific or the intended meaning of language would

1 otherwise be altered.

2 C. Whenever current laws and other published
3 legislative documents are the subject of a legislative request
4 to the legislative council service for amendment or revision,
5 the legislative council service as part of its work shall
6 replace gender-specific language with gender-neutral language
7 where appropriate and reasonable.

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