

1 A JOINT MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THAT A TASK FORCE CONVENE TO STUDY APPROPRIATE WAYS  
3 FOR THE STATE TO PARTICIPATE IN BUILDING BROADBAND NETWORK  
4 INFRASTRUCTURE.

5  
6 WHEREAS, digital communications comprise an ever-growing  
7 proportion of day-to-day educational and commercial  
8 interactions; and

9 WHEREAS, increasingly, people's upward educational and  
10 economic mobility correlates to the degree of their access to  
11 a broadband communications network; and

12 WHEREAS, if all people in New Mexico had access to a  
13 broadband network, their opportunities for educational and  
14 economic advancement would grow and the state would develop  
15 economically; and

16 WHEREAS, some New Mexicans cannot access broadband  
17 technology because of deficiencies in network infrastructure;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, many parts of the state lack network  
20 infrastructure because it is not profitable for the private  
21 sector to develop that infrastructure in those regions; and

22 WHEREAS, the state should play an active role in  
23 developing underserved and unserved areas by forging broadband  
24 network connections where they currently need strengthening or  
25 where they do not exist; and

1           WHEREAS, several of New Mexico's universities are  
2 working with communities and collaborating with public  
3 utilities and commercial providers to improve the state's  
4 public broadband network;

5           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
6 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that a task force be requested to study  
7 the appropriate role of the state in building broadband  
8 infrastructure so that all New Mexicans have access to a  
9 broadband network; and

10           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be composed  
11 of a representative of the legislative finance committee; a  
12 member of the franchise cable industry; a representative from  
13 the department of information technology; a representative of  
14 the science, technology and telecommunications committee; a  
15 representative of the New Mexico finance authority; a  
16 representative of the incumbent rural telephone carriers; a  
17 representative of the wireless industry and experts in  
18 broadband technology infrastructure who represent the  
19 university of New Mexico, New Mexico state university, the  
20 New Mexico institute of mining and technology and New Mexico  
21 highlands university; and

22           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico legislative  
23 council appoint the legislative members of the working group;  
24 and

25           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative finance

1 committee, the science, technology and telecommunications  
2 committee and the New Mexico finance authority oversight  
3 committee be requested to hear testimony and receive  
4 recommendations from the task force and other experts in  
5 broadband technology; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
7 transmitted to the information technology departments and the  
8 boards of regents of the university of New Mexico, New Mexico  
9 state university, the New Mexico institute of mining and  
10 technology and New Mexico highlands university. \_\_\_\_\_

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