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HOUSE MEMORIAL 110

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2016

INTRODUCED BY

Gail Chasey

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF DEVELOPMENT OF A SECURE AND SIMPLE METHOD OF IDENTITY AUTHENTICATION BASED ON BIOMETRICS.

WHEREAS, in 2014, an estimated seventeen million six hundred thousand Americans had their personal information compromised at least once, according to the United States department of justice; and

WHEREAS, the United States department of justice states that the total financial loss stemming from identity theft in 2014 was fifteen billion, four hundred million dollars (\$15,400,000,000); and

WHEREAS, more than thirteen million Americans share one of ten common surnames, tens of millions of consumers use

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1 nicknames or initials, and fifty-seven million males have one
2 of ten first names; and

3 WHEREAS, these changes to identifiers pose complex
4 challenges for authentication by identity; and

5 WHEREAS, typically, a person's identity is more
6 susceptible to fraud when personal identification numbers are
7 used to authenticate identity; and

8 WHEREAS, biometric identity, such as fingerprints, is
9 unique to each person and is less susceptible to fraud than
10 other identification methods such as the authentication of
11 documents; and

12 WHEREAS, information and communication technology is
13 transforming the way business operates; and

14 WHEREAS, biometrics is becoming increasingly utilized by
15 businesses, with fingerprint identification as the most
16 feasible biometric, given the maturity of technology and
17 software and the convenience and growing use of fingerprint
18 scanners on devices such as cellular telephones and tablet
19 computers; and

20 WHEREAS, the adoption of a voluntary fingerprint identity
21 system for state government transactions could reduce instances
22 of fraud and loss of revenue due to fraud; and

23 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial to study the feasibility
24 of the development of a secure and simple method of identity
25 authentication based on biometrics;

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1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
2 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the economic
3 development department and the department of public safety be
4 requested to convene a biometrics study group made up of
5 interested parties to study the feasibility of the development
6 of a secure and simple method of identity authentication based
7 on biometrics; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the biometrics study group be
9 requested to report its findings and recommendations to the
10 appropriate legislative interim committee addressing issues
11 related to science, technology and telecommunications by
12 November 1, 2016; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
14 transmitted to the secretary of economic development and the
15 secretary of public safety.