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A JOINT RESOLUTION

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 5 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF
NEW MEXICO TO CREATE AN INDEPENDENT STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
WITH JURISDICTION TO INVESTIGATE, ADJUDICATE AND ISSUE
ADVISORY OPINIONS CONCERNING CIVIL VIOLATIONS OF LAWS
GOVERNING ETHICS, STANDARDS OF CONDUCT AND REPORTING
REQUIREMENTS AS PROVIDED BY LAW.

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

SECTION 1. It is proposed to amend Article 5 of the
constitution of New Mexico by adding a new section to read:

"A. The "state ethics commission" is established
as an independent state agency under the direction of seven
commissioners, no more than three of whom may be members of
the same political party, whose terms and qualifications
shall be as provided by law. The governor shall appoint one
commissioner. One commissioner each shall be appointed by
the president pro tempore of the senate, the minority floor
leader of the senate, the speaker of the house of
representatives and the minority floor leader of the house of
representatives, all as certified by the chief clerks of the
respective chambers. Two commissioners, who shall not be
members of the same political party, shall be appointed by
the four legislatively appointed commissioners.

B. The state ethics commission may initiate,

1 receive, investigate and adjudicate complaints alleging
2 violations of, and issue advisory opinions concerning,
3 standards of ethical conduct and other standards of conduct
4 and reporting requirements, as may be provided by law, for
5 state officers and employees of the executive and legislative
6 branches of government, candidates or other participants in
7 elections, lobbyists or government contractors or seekers of
8 government contracts and have such other jurisdiction as
9 provided by law.

10 C. The state ethics commission may require the
11 attendance of witnesses or the production of records and
12 other evidence relevant to an investigation by subpoena as
13 provided by law and shall have such other powers and duties
14 and administer or enforce such other acts as further provided
15 by law."

16 SECTION 2. The amendment proposed by this resolution
17 shall be submitted to the people for their approval or
18 rejection at the next general election or at any special
19 election prior to that date that may be called for that
20 purpose.

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