

HOUSE MEMORIAL 124

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017

INTRODUCED BY

Harry Garcia and Derrick J. Lente

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF THE USE OF IGNITION INTERLOCK
DRIVER'S LICENSES TO IDENTIFY THE HOLDER AS A PERSON WHO IS
PROHIBITED FROM PURCHASING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

WHEREAS, New Mexico has one of the highest driving while
intoxicated rates in the nation; and

WHEREAS, New Mexican families continue to be devastated by
drunk drivers; and

WHEREAS, repeat offenders continue to terrorize the roads
and highways of New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico legislature has over the years
responded with multiple measures to keep drunk drivers off the
highways; and

WHEREAS, despite these efforts, from 2003 to 2012, there
were over one thousand two hundred fifty-four fatalities caused

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1 by repeat offenders; and

2 WHEREAS, this staggering figure has resulted in the
3 continued efforts by law enforcement, the judiciary, advocates
4 and governmental agencies to curtail the trends, but the number
5 of deaths continues to escalate to epidemic proportions; and

6 WHEREAS, in 2005, New Mexico was the first state in the
7 country to require that anyone who is convicted of driving
8 under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs obtain an
9 ignition interlock license and install an ignition interlock
10 system in his or her vehicle; and

11 WHEREAS, despite the decrease of driving under the
12 influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs offenders, the number
13 of individual repeat offenders continues to escalate; and

14 WHEREAS, the New Mexico legislature turned to the use of
15 ignition interlock devices to help limit drunk driving on the
16 highways; and

17 WHEREAS, the New Mexico legislature continues to look at
18 ways to address these issues to get repeat offenders off the
19 highways;

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
21 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department
22 of public safety, the taxation and revenue department and the
23 appropriate interim committee be requested to study and
24 evaluate the use of ignition interlock licenses to facilitate
25 the prohibition of the sale of alcohol to the holder of the

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license; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the department of public safety, the taxation and revenue department and the New Mexico legislative council.