

1 SENATE MEMORIAL 120

2 **54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 William E. Sharer

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10 A MEMORIAL

11 EXPRESSING NOSTALGIA FOR THE GOOD OLD, OLD, OLD DAYS.

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13 WHEREAS, it is fabled that the Locraians, a people from a  
14 city-state in the central part of ancient Greece, had an  
15 interesting method of keeping legislative bill introduction  
16 within reasonable bounds; and

17 WHEREAS, the rule was simple; and

18 WHEREAS, to propose a new law, or propose to change an old  
19 law, one had to argue the matter before the council of one  
20 thousand, with a rope around one's neck; and

21 WHEREAS, if the council voted against the bill or proposed  
22 changes, the unfortunate soul who presented the proposal was  
23 choked to death on the spot; and

24 WHEREAS, in Athens during this same time, within one year  
25 of a bill introduction, the person who introduced a bill was

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1 subject to indictment for unconstitutional legislation; and

2 WHEREAS, at the trial, the person's life could be declared  
3 forfeited if the person was unsuccessful in defending both the  
4 merits of the proposal and the procedure followed in securing  
5 its introduction and passage; and

6 WHEREAS, needless to say, in both of these city-states,  
7 the quality of legislation introduced was very high and the  
8 quantity was very low; and

9 WHEREAS, placing those kinds of restrictions on the New  
10 Mexico legislature might be overkill, so to speak; and

11 WHEREAS, on the other hand, consider that during the  
12 thirty-day session of the 2018 regular session, nine hundred  
13 sixteen individual bills, resolutions and memorials were  
14 introduced, and fifty-four committee and floor substitutes were  
15 submitted; and

16 WHEREAS, the proliferation of bills, resolutions,  
17 memorials and committee and floor substitutes introduced each  
18 session is mind-boggling; and

19 WHEREAS, then again, modern legislative sessions might  
20 make one long for, and appreciate, those good old, old, old  
21 days;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
23 OF NEW MEXICO that legislators be requested to contemplate the  
24 proliferation of their handiwork and that nostalgia be  
25 expressed for the good old, old, old days; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
2 transmitted to the president pro tempore of the senate, the  
3 speaker of the house of representatives and the governing  
4 bodies of Locrains and Athens.

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