

1 SENATE BILL 308

2 **56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2023**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Joseph Cervantes and Mimi Stewart and Peter Wirth

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10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO THE CONSTITUTION; CREATING A CONSTITUTIONAL
12 REVISION COMMISSION; PROVIDING POWERS AND DUTIES; MAKING AN
13 APPROPRIATION; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

16 SECTION 1. TEMPORARY PROVISION--CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION
17 COMMISSION--CREATION--COMPOSITION--TERMS.--The "constitutional
18 revision commission" is created. The commission shall be
19 composed of fifteen voting members who shall be appointed by
20 the governor with five members appointed from each
21 congressional district. Not more than eight voting members
22 shall belong to the same political party. In addition, two
23 members of the house of representatives, appointed by the
24 speaker of the house of representatives; two members of the
25 senate, appointed by the president pro tempore; the chief

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1 justice of the supreme court or the chief justice's designee
2 and the attorney general or the attorney general's designee
3 shall serve on the constitutional revision commission in an
4 advisory and consulting capacity. The commission shall
5 function for two years from the date of its appointment.

6 SECTION 2. TEMPORARY PROVISION--OFFICERS--VACANCIES.--The
7 constitutional revision commission shall elect a chair and
8 other necessary officers from among its members. Vacancies on
9 the commission shall be filled by appointment by the original
10 appointing authority.

11 SECTION 3. TEMPORARY PROVISION--POWERS AND DUTIES.--The
12 constitutional revision commission shall examine the
13 constitution of New Mexico and the constitutions of other
14 states to recommend changes in the constitution of New Mexico
15 as it deems desirable and necessary. Upon majority approval of
16 the fifteen members appointed by the governor, legislation
17 shall be drafted by the legislative council service in
18 accordance with the provisions of Article 19 of the
19 constitution of New Mexico.

20 SECTION 4. TEMPORARY PROVISION--REPORTS AND
21 RECOMMENDATIONS.--The constitutional revision commission shall
22 make a full report of its findings and recommendations to the
23 governor and the legislature along with any recommended
24 legislation to each member of the fifty-sixth legislature. The
25 report and any recommended legislation shall also be made

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1 available to each member of the fifty-sixth legislature not
2 later than thirty days prior to the convening of its second
3 regular session.

4 SECTION 5. TEMPORARY PROVISION--STAFFING.--The
5 constitutional revision commission shall be staffed by the
6 legislative council service. The non-drafting staff and non-
7 drafting research work shall be supervised by the chair of the
8 constitutional revision commission.

9 SECTION 6. TEMPORARY PROVISION--SUBCOMMITTEES.--In the
10 performance of its duties, the constitutional revision
11 commission may divide into subcommittees, but the findings and
12 recommendations of the commission shall be adopted and reported
13 only upon a majority vote of the commission.

14 SECTION 7. TEMPORARY PROVISION--PER DIEM AND
15 MILEAGE.--Members of the constitutional revision commission
16 appointed by the governor shall receive per diem and mileage as
17 provided in the Per Diem and Mileage Act and shall receive no
18 other compensation, perquisite or allowance. The legislative
19 advisory members shall be paid per diem and mileage as provided
20 by law for legislators serving on New Mexico legislative
21 council-appointed committees.

22 SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION.--Two hundred thousand dollars
23 (\$200,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the
24 legislative council service for expenditure in fiscal years
25 2024 through 2026 to carry out the duties of the constitutional

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1 revision commission. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance
2 remaining at the end of fiscal year 2026 shall revert to the
3 general fund.

4 SECTION 9. EMERGENCY.--It is necessary for the public
5 peace, health and safety that this act take effect immediately.