

SENATE MEMORIAL 17

**57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2026**

INTRODUCED BY

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and Angel M. Charley and Shannon D. Pinto

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT THE SECRETARY OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NEW MEXICO COALITION OF SEXUAL  
ASSAULT PROGRAMS CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE CURRENT  
STATE OF SEXUAL ASSAULT EXAMINATION KITS IN NEW MEXICO AND  
REPORT PROGRESS ON THE PROCESSING OF BACKLOGGED SEXUAL ASSAULT  
EXAMINATION KITS.

WHEREAS, according to the 2024 *New Mexico Crime  
Victimization Report*, fifty-four percent of all New Mexicans  
have experienced sexual assault or rape in their lifetimes; and

WHEREAS, of those surveyed, forty percent reported being  
twelve years or younger at the time of the first incident; and

WHEREAS, twenty-eight percent of respondents to the *New  
Mexico Crime Victimization Report* survey reported being injured  
to the extent of receiving medical care; and

1 WHEREAS, respondents of color were more likely than white,  
2 non-Hispanic respondents to have been sexually assaulted; and

3 WHEREAS, New Mexico has implemented processes to address  
4 its sexual assault examination kit backlog and seeks to ensure  
5 that another backlog does not form; and

6 WHEREAS, a sexual assault survivor has the opportunity to  
7 receive information about the status of the sexual assault  
8 survivor's sexual assault examination kit; and

9 WHEREAS, it has been ten years since the last sexual  
10 assault examination kit backlog task force was convened;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
12 OF NEW MEXICO that the secretary of public safety and the  
13 executive director of the New Mexico coalition of sexual  
14 assault programs be requested to convene a task force to study  
15 the current state of sexual assault examination kits in New  
16 Mexico and report progress on the processing of backlogged  
17 sexual assault examination kits; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be composed of:

19 A. the secretary of public safety or the  
20 secretary's designee;

21 B. the executive director of the New Mexico  
22 coalition of sexual assault programs or the executive  
23 director's designee;

24 C. the state auditor or the state auditor's  
25 designee;

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1 D. the attorney general or the attorney general's  
2 designee;

3 E. the director of a rape crisis center that serves  
4 a community with a population of one hundred thousand or  
5 greater;

6 F. the director of a rape crisis center that serves  
7 a community with a population of less than one hundred  
8 thousand;

9 G. the director of a sexual assault nurse examiner  
10 program that serves a community with a population of one  
11 hundred thousand or greater;

12 H. the director of a sexual assault nurse examiner  
13 program that serves a community with a population of less than  
14 one hundred thousand;

15 I. the director of the department of public  
16 safety's forensic laboratories bureau;

17 J. the sexual assault kit initiative program  
18 coordinator in the department of public safety;

19 K. the director of the Albuquerque police  
20 department's crime laboratory; and

21 L. the statewide sexual assault nurse examiner  
22 coordinator; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of public safety  
24 or the secretary's designee and the executive director of the  
25 New Mexico coalition of sexual assault programs or the

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1 executive director's designee serve as co-chairs of the task  
2 force; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force meet beginning  
4 in July 2026; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force report to the  
6 interim legislative committee dealing with courts, corrections  
7 and justice issues and to the legislative health and human  
8 services committee with the task force's recommendations and  
9 updates on:

10 A. statewide progress made in processing sexual  
11 assault examination kits to meet the time line defined in  
12 Section 30-9-21 NMSA 1978;

13 B. the adequacy of services available to survivors  
14 who are affected by the processing of sexual assault  
15 examination kits;

16 C. potential solutions identified by the task force  
17 to any current challenges in the processing of sexual assault  
18 examination kits; and

19 D. any legislation the task force recommends for  
20 introduction; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
22 transmitted to the secretary of public safety, the executive  
23 director of the New Mexico coalition of sexual assault  
24 programs, the attorney general, the director of the department  
25 of public safety's forensic laboratories bureau, the director

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underscored material = new  
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1 of the Albuquerque police department's crime laboratory and the  
2 statewide sexual assault nurse examiner coordinator.

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