

HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 16

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2018

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE NEW MEXICO SUPREME COURT TO
CONVENE A CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY TASK FORCE TO
IDENTIFY ISSUES OF PRIMARY CONCERN WITHIN THE STATE'S CRIMINAL
JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY SYSTEM AND TO DEVELOP A STRATEGIC
PLAN TO AMELIORATE THOSE CONCERNS.

WHEREAS, the crime rates in New Mexico have continued to
increase over the past several years, and the rate of property
crime in Albuquerque is the highest in the country; and

WHEREAS, most of the public safety concerns facing the
state are linked to substance use, behavioral health concerns
and strained criminal justice agency budgets; and

WHEREAS, it is critical that the state address issues
within the criminal justice system, which will involve
evaluating and identifying the areas most in need of support

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1 within early childhood intervention programs; law enforcement;
2 prosecutor's and public defender's offices; the courts;
3 corrections facilities and county jails; and the behavioral
4 health care system, among others;

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
6 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the chief justice of the New Mexico
7 supreme court be requested to convene, by April 1, 2018, a
8 criminal justice and public safety task force to identify the
9 issues of primary concern within the state's criminal justice
10 and public safety system and to develop a strategic plan to
11 ameliorate those concerns, including measurable outcomes to
12 help ensure that public investments in improvements to that
13 system are as efficient and effective as possible; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the criminal justice and
15 public safety task force be composed of the following members
16 or the members' designee:

17 A. a representative of the courts, appointed by the
18 chief justice of the New Mexico supreme court, to serve as the
19 chair of the task force;

20 B. the attorney general;

21 C. the president of the New Mexico district
22 attorneys association;

23 D. the chief public defender;

24 E. the secretary of corrections;

25 F. the secretary of public safety;

1 G. the secretary of children, youth and families;

2 H. the secretary of health;

3 I. the secretary of human services;

4 J. the executive director of the New Mexico
5 association of counties;

6 K. the executive director of the New Mexico
7 municipal league; and

8 L. up to four additional members appointed by the
9 chair of the task force; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the criminal justice and
11 public safety task force present to the legislature a report on
12 its work, including its specific recommendations for
13 improvements to the state's criminal justice and public safety
14 systems, no later than October 15, 2018; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
16 transmitted to the speaker of the house of representatives; the
17 president pro tempore of the senate; the chief justice of the
18 supreme court of New Mexico; the governor; the attorney
19 general; the president of the New Mexico district attorneys
20 association; the chief public defender; the secretaries of
21 corrections, public safety, human services, children, youth and
22 families and health; the executive director of the New Mexico
23 association of counties; and the executive director of the New
24 Mexico municipal league.

