

**MINUTES
of the
SECOND MEETING
of the
CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM SUBCOMMITTEE
of the
COURTS, CORRECTIONS AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

**September 4, 2020
Video Conference Meeting**

The second meeting of the Criminal Justice Reform Subcommittee of the Courts, Corrections and Justice Committee was called to order by Representative Antonio Maestas, co-chair, on September 4, 2020 at 9:07 a.m. by video and audio conference via an online platform.

Present

Rep. Antonio Maestas, Co-Chair
Sen. Sander Rue, Co-Chair
Sen. Gregory A. Baca
Rep. Alonzo Baldonado
Rep. Gail Chasey
Sen. Richard C. Martinez
Sen. Antoinette Sedillo Lopez

Absent

Rep. Zachary J. Cook

Advisory Members

Sen. Bill B. O'Neill
Rep. William "Bill" R. Rehm

Rep. Tara L. Lujan

Guest Legislator

Rep. Kelly K. Fajardo

Staff

Elisabeth Johnson, Staff Attorney, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Erin Bond, Research Assistant, LCS

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and are posted on the legislature's website.

Friday, September 4

Independent Oversight of State Corrections Departments (9:11 a.m.)

Amanda Essex, senior policy strategist, Criminal Justice Program, National Conference of State Legislatures, provided the subcommittee with a presentation regarding independent oversight of state corrections departments. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/CJRS%20090420%20Item%201%20Independent%20Oversight%20of%20Corrections%20Departments.pdf>.

Comments from subcommittee members included the following:

- there was an attempt at independent oversight of the Corrections Department in the past, but it was not successful;
- the Georgia model might be a model to replicate; and
- if New Mexico chooses to have independent oversight of the Corrections Department, the structure of the oversight body will be important.

Oversight for Corrections Departments (10:26 a.m.)

Ellen Rabin, fiscal analyst, Legislative Finance Committee (LFC), provided the subcommittee with a presentation regarding fines and fees in relation to criminal justice reform. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/CJRS%20090420%20Item%202%20LFC%20Review%20of%20the%20Corrections%20Department.pdf>.

Comments from subcommittee members included the following:

- failure by the Corrections Department to respond to reporting requirements should result in a consequence; and
- there may need to be another discussion with the LFC at some point about the failure of the Corrections Department to respond to reporting requirements.

Occupational and Professional Licensing as a Barrier to Entry (1:03 p.m.)

Jenna Bottler, deputy director, Justice Action Network, provided the subcommittee with a presentation regarding occupational and professional licensing as a barrier to entry. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/CJRS%20090420%20Item%203%20Occupational%20Licensing-%20Barriers%20to%20Work%20Redemption%20and%20Growth.pdf>.

A subcommittee member commented that the New Mexico Law Enforcement Academy is revoking licenses for errant officers.

Licensing Structure in New Mexico (2:03 p.m.)

Marguerite Salazar, superintendent, Regulation and Licensing Department (RLD), and Linda Trujillo, deputy superintendent, RLD, provided the subcommittee with a presentation regarding the licensing structure in New Mexico. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/CJRS%20090420%20Item%204%20CRIMINAL%20OFFENDER%20EMPLOYMENT%20ACT%20AND%20PROFESSIONAL%20LICENSURE.pdf>.

Public Comment (2:37 p.m.)

The subcommittee heard public comment from Ann Edenfield Sweet, Wings for LIFE International, and Karla Flowers.

Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, the subcommittee approved the minutes of the August 10, 2020 meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:48 p.m.