

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 33

2 46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2004

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Pete Campos

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT TO EXAMINE THE NEED TO
12 EXPAND THE GUADALUPE COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY.

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14 WHEREAS, the state's correctional system is a key
15 component of the state's public safety strategy, separating
16 violent offenders from law-abiding residents and offering
17 valuable programs to rehabilitate offenders prior to their
18 release; and

19 WHEREAS, the state has ambitiously worked to expand the
20 capacity of its prison system to safely accommodate an ever-
21 growing inmate population by contracting with private prison
22 operators and housing inmates out-of-state; and

23 WHEREAS, despite the recent expansions in prison capacity,
24 New Mexico's prison system is once again nearing its capacity
25 for male inmates, creating a potentially dangerous and

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1 unmanageable situation; and

2 WHEREAS, the privately owned and operated Guadalupe county
3 correctional facility, with a capacity for six hundred inmates
4 and an actual population near that number, is located
5 conveniently along interstate 40, which makes the
6 transportation of inmates, delivery of supplies and visitation
7 of inmates' family members relatively easy; and

8 WHEREAS, the Guadalupe county correctional facility is a
9 modern correctional facility and was designed to be expanded
10 relatively easily;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
12 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the corrections department be
13 requested to examine the need for, feasibility of and other
14 issues regarding the possible expansion of the Guadalupe county
15 correctional facility by fifty-two cells to accommodate an
16 additional one hundred four inmates; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the corrections department
18 report its findings and recommendations, if any, to the first
19 session of the forty-seventh legislature and provide two copies
20 of the report to the legislature council service library; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
22 transmitted to the secretary of corrections.