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1 disabilities to participate in the work force; and

2 WHEREAS, persons with disabilities often face significant
3 barriers to accessing meaningful and gainful employment due to
4 the shortage of support services needed by many persons with
5 disabilities in the work place; and

6 WHEREAS, there are employment services that offer proven,
7 effective support to persons with disabilities who want to join
8 the work force; and

9 WHEREAS, employed persons with disabilities contribute
10 significantly to the state's economy and revenues; and

11 WHEREAS, state government should promote partnerships and
12 collaborations among state agencies and the private sector to
13 ensure the effective use of resources; and

14 WHEREAS, Governor Bill Richardson created the executive
15 task force on disability employment, an interagency work group,
16 to develop policies and procedures to facilitate the increased
17 employment of persons with disabilities throughout state
18 government; and

19 WHEREAS, the governor's commission on disability, the
20 vocational rehabilitation division of the public education
21 department, the labor department, the governor's office of
22 workforce training and development, the commission for deaf and
23 hard-of-hearing persons, the special education bureau of the
24 public education department, the aging and long-term services
25 department, the state personnel office, the commission for

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1 community volunteerism, the commission for the blind and the
2 developmental disabilities planning council have developed a
3 proposal for increasing the employment of persons with
4 disabilities within state government; and

5 WHEREAS, the state has an interest in increasing the
6 employment of persons with disabilities, because employment
7 allows them to exit state-funded services and assistance
8 programs; and

9 WHEREAS, the governor has challenged municipalities, other
10 government entities and the business community to increase the
11 employment of persons with disabilities;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
13 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the executive task force on disability
14 employment be directed to develop policies, procedures and
15 guidelines that can be utilized by state agencies to recruit,
16 hire, retain and promote persons with disabilities for state
17 government positions; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all state entities and
19 agencies follow these policies, procedures and guidelines to
20 recruit, hire, retain and promote persons with disabilities for
21 state government positions; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the executive task force on
23 disability employment report the policies, procedures and
24 guidelines it develops to the appropriate interim legislative
25 committee prior to the second session of the forty-seventh

1 legislature; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
3 transmitted to the members of the executive task force on
4 disability employment.

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