

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

HOUSE MEMORIAL 53

48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2008

INTRODUCED BY

William "Bill" R. Rehm

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE MOTOR
VEHICLE DIVISION OF THE TAXATION AND REVENUE DEPARTMENT TO
STUDY THE INCREASING PROBLEM OF AUTO THEFT IN NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, the federal bureau of investigation reports that
every twenty-six seconds, a motor vehicle is stolen in the
United States, with western states accounting for the largest
share of auto theft; and

WHEREAS, only twelve and six-tenths percent of auto thefts
were cleared by arrest in 2006; and

WHEREAS, the number of auto thefts increased in New Mexico
by fifteen and four-tenths percent in 2006, with over nine
thousand vehicles reported stolen, while nationwide the number
of auto thefts decreased by three and four-tenths percent; and

WHEREAS, out of three hundred sixty-one metropolitan areas

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

underscoring material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 studied in 2006, Albuquerque had the thirteenth-highest rate of
2 auto thefts, which increased by forty-five percent from 2005;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, stolen vehicles are being used in the commission
5 of other crimes and are increasingly being used to assault
6 peace officers; and

7 WHEREAS, in January 2008, the extreme home makeover
8 reality show, while building a new home for an Albuquerque
9 family, had its Ford F-550 truck and the tools in the truck
10 stolen, the very first theft experienced by that show; and

11 WHEREAS, persons committing auto theft are becoming more
12 organized and knowledgeable, changing vehicle identification
13 numbers, obtaining titles and registrations under false
14 pretense and dismantling vehicles for their components; and

15 WHEREAS, current vehicle title and registration laws allow
16 for deceptive practices with regard to the ownership and
17 identification numbers of vehicles;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
19 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the secretary
20 of public safety and the director of the motor vehicle division
21 of the taxation and revenue department be requested to assemble
22 a task force that includes representatives from local law
23 enforcement agencies, motor vehicle insurance providers or
24 agents, the attorney general's office, the district attorneys'
25 association and other relevant or interested parties to conduct

.172723.1

underscoring material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 a comprehensive study of the problem of auto theft in New
2 Mexico, including the dismantling of vehicles for their
3 components, the illegal exporting of stolen vehicles and the
4 changing of vehicle identification numbers in order to sell
5 stolen vehicles, and to make recommendations on changes to the
6 law or regulations as necessary; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force examine current
8 certificate of title laws and procedures in New Mexico and make
9 recommendations on how these laws or procedures can be enhanced
10 to thwart deceptive practices by car thieves and their
11 accomplices; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force report on its
13 study and recommendations to the appropriate interim
14 legislative committee during the 2008 interim and no later than
15 November 1, 2008; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
17 transmitted to the secretary of public safety and the director
18 of the motor vehicle division of the taxation and revenue
19 department.