

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 76

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009

INTRODUCED BY

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A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY  
AND BENEFITS OF ESTABLISHING A STATE PLANNING AND COMMUNITY  
DESIGN OFFICE.

WHEREAS, the troubled economy of the state and the nation  
underscores the importance of careful coordination of planning,  
programming and expending of public resources; and

WHEREAS, solutions to environmental problems are becoming  
more difficult to find due to the advance of global climate  
change and the way in which we live in and build communities;  
and

WHEREAS, current and future challenges are presented by  
such issues as population growth; the community need for job  
production, education and recreation; the production and use of  
energy; and the need for sustainable approaches to land

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1 management and use; and

2 WHEREAS, the Executive Planning Act directs the executive  
3 branch to foster implementation of comprehensive planning, to  
4 define strategic issues and to coordinate federal and state  
5 resources toward a cohesive state policy; and

6 WHEREAS, the act further directs the governor's office to  
7 focus on overall state plans and policies and on  
8 interdepartmental coordination; and

9 WHEREAS, by Executive Order Number 2005-060, issued in  
10 2004, the governor created the task force on our communities,  
11 our future that met to develop recommendations regarding  
12 community livability and growth, environmental integrity,  
13 energy use, climate change and job development and to promote  
14 quality community investment practices; and

15 WHEREAS, in 2007, the task force published a report that  
16 identified statutory and funding recommendations on these  
17 issues; and

18 WHEREAS, the report of the task force included a tool kit  
19 describing ways to develop more walkable communities with  
20 greater choices for mobility, to provide more housing  
21 opportunities, to enhance the environment and natural  
22 resources, to preserve critical lands and to provide leadership  
23 in the livable economy of the future; and

24 WHEREAS, state and local agencies and special  
25 jurisdictions customarily operate independently and with

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1 limited awareness of each other's data, forecasts, assumptions,  
2 policies, plans, programs and projects; and

3 WHEREAS, the task force on our communities, our future  
4 specifically recommended the creation of a state office of  
5 planning and community design to conduct local and regional  
6 strategic planning, develop an annual state plan, coordinate  
7 capital improvements, develop an annual compendium of  
8 infrastructure needs, interface community needs with logical  
9 development and conservation of natural resources, preserve  
10 critical lands, create jobs related to a livable economy of the  
11 future, promote transit-oriented development and get a "bigger  
12 bang for the infrastructure buck";

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
14 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the office of the governor be  
15 requested to study the feasibility and benefits of establishing  
16 a state planning and community design office; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a broadly representative  
18 interagency, intergovernmental and private-sector task force be  
19 appointed to conduct the study; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study assess current  
21 conditions and practices relative to planning and coordination  
22 among governmental agencies, tribal entities and special  
23 districts in the state; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a report be developed that  
25 includes the necessary steps to establish effective, fully

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1 integrated, continuous, comprehensive and coordinated state  
2 planning to forward the recommendations of the task force on  
3 our communities, our future task; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
5 transmitted to the offices of the governor and the lieutenant  
6 governor and to the secretary of finance and administration.

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