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HOUSE BILL 237

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2010

INTRODUCED BY

Luciano "Lucky" Varela

AN ACT

RELATING TO GOVERNMENT RESTRUCTURING; CREATING THE GOVERNMENT
RESTRUCTURING TASK FORCE; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION; DECLARING AN
EMERGENCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. TEMPORARY PROVISION--GOVERNMENT RESTRUCTURING
TASK FORCE CREATED.--The "government restructuring task force"
is created. The task force shall function from the date of its
appointment until December 31, 2010.

Section 2. TEMPORARY PROVISION--MEMBERSHIP--APPOINTMENT--
VACANCIES.--

A. The government restructuring task force shall be
composed of seventeen voting members. Five members of the
house of representatives shall be appointed by the speaker of
the house of representatives, and five members of the senate

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1 shall be appointed by the committees' committee of the senate
2 or, if the appointments are made in the interim, by the
3 president pro tempore of the senate after consultation with and
4 agreement of a majority of the members of the committees'
5 committee.

6 B. Members of the government restructuring task
7 force shall be appointed from each house so as to give the two
8 major political parties in each house the same proportional
9 representation on the task force as prevails in each house.
10 Vacancies on the task force shall be filled by appointment in
11 the same manner as the original appointments. The chair and
12 vice chair of the task force shall be elected by the task
13 force.

14 C. Six public members with expertise in public and
15 private sector organizational structure and operations shall be
16 appointed to the task force, three of whom shall be appointed
17 by the speaker of the house of representatives and three of
18 whom shall be appointed by the president pro tempore of the
19 senate. The public members shall reflect the ethnic, cultural
20 and geographic diversity of the state.

21 D. The secretary of finance and administration
22 shall be a member of the task force.

23 E. The task force shall meet at the call of the
24 chair as necessary to carry out its duties, but no less than
25 once and no more than twice a month. The first meeting shall

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1 be held no later than April 22, 2010.

2 F. Three absences from meetings of the task force
3 shall constitute grounds for removal of a member of the task
4 force. Upon the request of the chair of the task force, the
5 appointing authority shall replace the member who has failed to
6 attend three meetings of the task force.

7 G. A majority of the members constitutes a quorum
8 for the transaction of business. The support of a majority of
9 the members is required for adoption of any action by the task
10 force; provided, however, that the final report of the task
11 force, including its recommendations and proposed legislation,
12 must have the support of a majority of the legislative members.

13 Section 3. TEMPORARY PROVISION--DUTIES.--

14 A. After its appointment, the government
15 restructuring task force shall hold one organizational meeting
16 to develop a work plan and budget for the ensuing interim.

17 B. The government restructuring task force shall
18 study the current resources of the state's agencies, programs,
19 services, funding and policies and the public needs served by
20 them, including the:

21 (1) recommendations of the governor's
22 committee on government efficiency;

23 (2) need for consolidation of agencies and
24 elimination or reduction of redundant, duplicative or
25 overlapping programs or services;

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1 (3) current and projected staffing needs of
2 state agencies for full-time, part-time, term, temporary and
3 contract employment; and

4 (4) current and projected revenue estimates
5 for the next three to five fiscal years.

6 C. The government restructuring task force shall
7 solicit public input.

8 D. The government restructuring task force shall
9 study the recommendations, initiatives and statutory changes
10 that occurred between 1975 and 1978 in reorganizing state
11 government.

12 E. The government restructuring task force shall
13 examine the statutes, constitutional provisions, rules and
14 court decisions governing state government and reorganization
15 and recommend legislation or changes.

16 F. The department of finance and administration and
17 the various agencies of the state shall cooperate with the task
18 force and provide the task force with information regarding
19 budget, staffing, organizational structure and other
20 information as requested by the task force.

21 Section 4. TEMPORARY PROVISION--SUBCOMMITTEES.--

22 Subcommittees shall be created only by majority vote of all
23 members appointed to the government restructuring task force.
24 A subcommittee shall be composed of at least one member from
25 the senate and one member from the house of representatives,

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1 and at least one member of the minority party shall be a member
2 of the subcommittee. All meetings and expenditures of a
3 subcommittee shall be approved by the full task force in
4 advance of such meeting or expenditure, and the approval shall
5 be shown in the minutes of the task force.

6 Section 5. TEMPORARY PROVISION--REPORT.--The government
7 restructuring task force shall make a report of its findings
8 and recommendations for consideration of the governor and the
9 legislature, including presentations to the New Mexico
10 legislative council, the legislative finance committee and the
11 legislative education study committee by December 1, 2010. A
12 final report and proposed legislation shall be made available
13 to the governor and all legislators by December 31, 2010.

14 Section 6. TEMPORARY PROVISION--STAFF.--The staff for the
15 government restructuring task force shall be provided by the
16 legislative council service, the legislative finance committee,
17 the legislative education study committee and the department of
18 finance and administration.

19 Section 7. APPROPRIATION.--One hundred thousand dollars
20 (\$100,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the
21 legislative council service for expenditure in fiscal years
22 2010 and 2011 to pay for operational expenses of the government
23 restructuring task force and for reimbursing the per diem and
24 mileage expenses of the task force members. Any unexpended or
25 unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2011

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1 shall revert to the general fund. Payments from the
2 appropriation shall be made upon vouchers signed by the
3 director of the legislative council service or the director's
4 authorized representative.

5 Section 8. EMERGENCY.--It is necessary for the public
6 peace, health and safety that this act take effect immediately.

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