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A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO INSTITUTE OF MINING AND TECHNOLOGY TO ESTABLISH A CENTER FOR BORDER SECURITY TO PROVIDE EDUCATION, TRAINING, RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO STATE AGENCIES AND LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS APPLYING FOR FEDERAL FUNDS TO COUNTER BORDER VIOLENCE.

WHEREAS, violence along the United States and Mexico border is a major concern of citizens and governments of both countries; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico, by virtue of location, culture, language and heritage, is unique among the fifty states of the union in its potential to address the concerns of border violence and to work jointly with surrounding neighbors, including Mexico; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico, New Mexico's neighbors and surrounding governmental and non-governmental organizations in the region need to work together more effectively to better protect citizens living along the border; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico institute of mining and technology is a public institution that serves the Hispanic population and networks extensively with other institutions and state and federal agencies for the advancement of science, technology and education focused on protection of life, human rights and property; and

1 WHEREAS, the New Mexico institute of mining and
2 technology currently contributes to the safety of the
3 residents of New Mexico, neighboring states and Mexico
4 through its technical assistance to and training support of
5 the United States department of homeland security's secure
6 border initiative network and first responder training and
7 its partnership with the international law enforcement
8 academy in Roswell, which is sponsored by the United States
9 department of state; and

10 WHEREAS, the New Mexico institute of mining and
11 technology was recently awarded competitive funding by the
12 United States department of justice for the southern border
13 training and technical assistance project; and

14 WHEREAS, a center for border security can provide
15 education, training and technical assistance to local, state,
16 federal and foreign agencies and non-governmental
17 organizations for the protection of the rights and safety of
18 New Mexico residents and New Mexico's neighbors, including
19 Mexico; and

20 WHEREAS, a center for border security can serve as a
21 vehicle for the New Mexico institute of mining and technology
22 and other partner institutions of higher education in the
23 region to act as a resource for relevant information on
24 border security and safety and a source of technical
25 assistance in countering border violence for New Mexico

1 counties, communities and state organizations that are
2 located at the United States and Mexico border; and

3 WHEREAS, a center for border security can collaborate
4 closely with state agencies such as the office of the
5 attorney general, the department of public safety and the
6 homeland security and emergency management department; and

7 WHEREAS, the New Mexico institute of mining and
8 technology has existing resources and funding, unique
9 facilities and exceptionally talented staff and faculty;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
11 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico institute of mining
12 and technology be requested to establish a center for border
13 security to partner with state and local organizations
14 seeking federal funds to counter violence at the United
15 States and Mexico border and to provide education, training,
16 research and technical assistance in order to garner more
17 resources in the effort to stem the violence along the United
18 States and Mexico border; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
20 transmitted to the governor, the attorney general, the
21 secretary of homeland security and emergency management, the
22 secretary of public safety and the board of regents of the
23 New Mexico institute of mining and technology. _____