

1 HOUSE BILL 175

2 **52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Roberto "Bobby" J. Gonzales

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10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION; CREATING A JOINT INTERIM  
12 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

15 SECTION 1. [NEW MATERIAL] FINDINGS.--The legislature  
16 finds that:

17 A. the public welfare and economy of the state  
18 depend on a safe and reliable transportation system for people,  
19 goods and services;

20 B. public transportation infrastructure projects,  
21 including state highways, typically require long-range  
22 planning, extended time lines for design and construction and  
23 significant investment of state funds, including continuing  
24 funding for maintenance;

25 C. the current system of roads and other public-use

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1 transportation systems represents a significant, multi-year  
2 investment of taxpayer resources;

3 D. the traditional revenue mechanisms for funding  
4 transportation systems typically result in construction funds  
5 that suffer continual erosion of purchasing power over time;  
6 and

7 E. the legislature requires analyses of the  
8 changing transportation needs of the state, the costs involved  
9 to acquire the needed infrastructure to meet the anticipated  
10 demand for public roadways and other transportation options and  
11 of potential transportation funding mechanisms on a continuing  
12 basis.

13 SECTION 2. [NEW MATERIAL] TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
14 CREATED--MEMBERSHIP--APPOINTMENT--VACANCIES.--

15 A. There is created a joint interim legislative  
16 committee that shall be known as the "transportation  
17 committee".

18 B. The transportation committee shall be composed  
19 of ten members. Five members of the house of representatives  
20 shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of  
21 representatives and five members of the senate shall be  
22 appointed by the committees' committee of the senate or, if the  
23 senate appointments are made in the interim, by the president  
24 pro tempore of the senate after consultation with and agreement  
25 of a majority of the members of the committees' committee.

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1           C. No action shall be taken by the committee if a  
2 majority of the total membership from either house on the  
3 committee rejects such action.

4           **SECTION 3. [NEW MATERIAL] DUTIES.**--After its appointment,  
5 the transportation committee shall hold one organizational  
6 meeting to develop a work plan and budget for the ensuing  
7 interim. The work plan and budget shall be submitted to the  
8 New Mexico legislative council for approval. Upon approval of  
9 the work plan and budget by the New Mexico legislative council,  
10 the committee shall examine:

11           A. the current condition and capabilities of the  
12 state's transportation system, the patterns of economic and  
13 population growth that may impact the demand on the  
14 transportation system and changes in the types of  
15 transportation options required by businesses and residents;  
16 and

17           B. the costs of maintaining, repairing and  
18 improving the state's transportation system, the ability of  
19 current revenue streams to meet transportation needs and  
20 options to meet potential deficits in transportation revenue  
21 streams.

22           **SECTION 4. [NEW MATERIAL] REPORT.**--The transportation  
23 committee shall make a report of its findings and  
24 recommendations for the consideration of each session of the  
25 legislature. The report and suggested legislation shall be

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1 made available to the New Mexico legislative council on or  
2 before December 15 preceding each session.

3 SECTION 5. [NEW MATERIAL] STAFF.--The staff for the  
4 transportation committee shall be provided by the legislative  
5 council service.

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