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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 19

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2018

INTRODUCED BY

Antonio "Moe" Maestas and Daymon Ely

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO CONVENE A TASK
FORCE TO STUDY NEEDED ELECTION REFORM.

WHEREAS, a better democracy dictates that as many citizens
as possible participate in every election, and representative
democracy is critical to New Mexico so that all voters' voices
are heard equally; and

WHEREAS, many interested parties in recent years have
proposed worthy election reform measures demonstrating that
this topic is important and relevant; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive approach to election reform where
all ideas are heard and thoroughly vetted should yield a better
outcome than piecemeal consideration of various election reform
measures; and

WHEREAS, the interim committee process provides an

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1 opportunity to study this complex subject in detail while
2 including as many stakeholders as possible;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
4 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council be
5 requested to convene an interim task force to study electoral
6 reforms and report to the first session of the fifty-fourth
7 legislature its recommendations; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the reforms to be considered
9 for study include open primaries, nonpartisan redistricting
10 commissions, ranked choice voting, fair ballot access
11 requirements, public financing of campaigns, automatic voter
12 registration, fusion voting and proportional representation,
13 among other electoral reforms; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be composed of
15 thirteen members: six legislative members, divided equally
16 between the house of representatives and senate and no more
17 than three members from the same party; six members of the
18 public; and the secretary of state as a voting member; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that at least one-half of the non-
20 legislative members of the task force be individuals who are
21 unaffiliated with a party or who are registered with a minor
22 party and that the task force members be appointed by the
23 speaker of the house of representatives, the president pro
24 tempore of the senate and the minority leadership of both
25 chambers to ensure party affiliation equity; and

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