

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO STUDY
3 ALTERNATIVE USES FOR STATE FAIRGROUNDS PROPERTY THAT COULD
4 PROVIDE A PERMANENT REVENUE STREAM TO FUND FAIRGROUND
5 OPERATIONS AND THAT WOULD BE COMPATIBLE WITH SURROUNDING CITY
6 AND COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE.

7
8 WHEREAS, the Expo New Mexico state fair is one of the
9 largest fairs in the nation; and

10 WHEREAS, the Expo New Mexico state fairgrounds currently
11 leases its buildings and property for a variety of
12 exhibitions and commercial purposes, including a racetrack
13 and casino, and hosts a state fair annually for approximately
14 seventeen days; and

15 WHEREAS, Expo New Mexico is in need of additional funds
16 for maintenance and operations of the New Mexico state
17 fairgrounds; and

18 WHEREAS, Expo New Mexico state fairgrounds is located in
19 Albuquerque, the largest urban center in New Mexico, and the
20 property is surrounded by land used for commercial, office
21 and residential purposes; and

22 WHEREAS, the potential exists to identify new uses for
23 state fairgrounds property that could provide a permanent
24 revenue stream to fund fairgrounds maintenance and
25 operations, be compatible with the educational purposes of

1 the fairgrounds as set forth in statute, be compatible with
2 the surrounding urban development infrastructure and enhance
3 the economy and the development character of the surrounding
4 urban areas; and

5 WHEREAS, six neighborhood associations recognized by the
6 city of Albuquerque share a border with the state
7 fairgrounds; and

8 WHEREAS, these associations are eager to participate in
9 efforts to identify alternative uses for state fairgrounds
10 property and are already actively engaged in planning efforts
11 that will meet the mutual needs of the fairgrounds and the
12 eclectic combination of residential and commercial neighbors
13 that are contiguously located there;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
15 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor be requested to convene
16 a task force to study alternative uses for state fairgrounds
17 property that could provide a permanent revenue stream to
18 fund fairgrounds operations and that would be compatible with
19 surrounding city and county development and infrastructure;
20 and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force include
22 representation from the state fair commission, legislators
23 whose districts include neighborhoods surrounding the state
24 fairgrounds, a neighborhood association located in
25 Albuquerque city council district six, a neighborhood

1 association located in Albuquerque city council district
2 seven, Albuquerque city management, the Bernalillo county
3 board of county commissioners and the economic development
4 department; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force consider such
6 potential options as public and private partnerships to
7 create a business park, shops that lease the fairgrounds
8 land, a complex of charter schools and the location of a
9 complex of state and municipal government offices and
10 departments on the fairgrounds; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force identify and
12 consider other income-producing options that would be
13 compatible with the surrounding neighborhoods and city and
14 county development and infrastructure; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a report of the findings and
16 recommendations of the task force be presented to the
17 appropriate interim legislative committee by October 2011;
18 and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the negotiations on the
20 Albuquerque downs and casino lease be suspended until the
21 findings and recommendations are received and reviewed by the
22 New Mexico legislature in order to preserve the potential for
23 new uses identified by the task force; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
25 transmitted to the governor, the chair of the state fair

