



A Memorial to Create Legislative Housing Committees

The Problem: There is broad consensus: New Mexico is in a housing crisis. Often, housing legislation goes to House Health and Human Services or Senate Health and Public Affairs, and in the interim, there is only the Mortgage Finance Authority Oversight Committee which is generally tasked not with making housing policy recommendations, but overseeing the functions of the agency. This creates an environment where housing legislation and funding is not considered by a committee tasked solely with considering the local and statewide impact of housing policy and spending.

The Solution: Create housing committees in both houses during session and a housing committee to work during the interim. The committees should have members from both urban and rural communities, with an array of interests and expertise to ensure that housing needs are being met all over the state through policy and resource allocation.

Legislative Proposal: We propose that the legislature introduce a memorial to create at least one housing committee in each chamber, so that housing legislation can be given consideration and review it needs in order to be effective and efficient for New Mexicans. Creation of a housing committee will help set priorities to help New Mexico create more housing, and prevent future housing shortages.

Potential Partners: Legislators already formed a bipartisan housing caucus in 2025 to address the lack of housing committees. Many on both sides of the aisle should be supportive of this.

Potential Opposition: None currently identified.

How will we pay for it? This would be funded the same way that legislators and committees are currently funded - per diem rates for the legislators, and by the state during session and when interim meetings occur. This will not cost the state any more funds than what it already provides for committees.