

June 24, 2019

Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham Cabinet Secretary Alicia J. Keyes Deputy Secretary Jon Clark

EDD Convenes House Memorial 16 Task Force

The New Mexico Economic Development Department is convening the first meeting of a task force that was created by lawmakers to spur economic growth with better collaboration and innovation.

Pursuant to House Memorial 16 passed by the 2019 Legislature, the **Economic Development Innovation Task Force** will meet on Wednesday June 26, 2019 from 1 to 3 p.m., at 301 Rail Runner Avenue in Bernalillo, N.M., 87004 at the office of N.M. Workforce Connection.

Sponsored by Rep. Andrea Romero, HM 16 calls on the state to "pursue a stronger collaboration among the economic development community; the state's institutions of higher education and their respective alumni networks; and the business community to develop and enact specific action plans to recruit individuals with talent and critical skills to the state…"

The Task Force is charged with identifying permanent funding sources for economic development programs and incentives, create a plan to recruit talented and skilled individuals to the state via higher education alumni networks, and identify efforts to support development of quality commercial and industrial space.

Cabinet Secretary Alicia J. Keyes of the Economic Development Department said her agency is open to any new ideas that can help grow and diversify the economy. "We look forward to the findings of this Task Force," said Keyes.

Members of the task force include four members of IDEA, an association of professional economic developers representing communities and service providers; as well as representatives from the Department of Workforce Solutions, higher education, the Commissioner of Public Lands; and appointees from the House and the Senate.

The panel will present a report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature. For more information about the Task Force or the meeting contact Juan Torres, 505.827.0238 or Juan.Torres@state.nm.us.

Here is a link to the Memorial - www.nmlegis.gov/Sessions/19%20Regular/final/HM016.pdf

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