



The Legislature  
of the  
State of New Mexico

57th Legislature, 2nd Session

LAWS 2026

CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

HOUSE BILL 96, as amended

Introduced by

REPRESENTATIVE DAYAN M. HOCHMAN-VIGIL

REPRESENTATIVE REBECCA DOW

REPRESENTATIVE JOSHUA N. HERNANDEZ



**POCKET VETOED**

1 AN ACT

2 RELATING TO AEROSPACE; CREATING THE SPACE COMMISSION WORKING  
3 GROUP; PROVIDING DUTIES; REQUIRING A FINAL REPORT.

4  
5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

6 SECTION 1. TEMPORARY PROVISION--SPACE COMMISSION  
7 WORKING GROUP--CREATED--DUTIES--FINAL REPORT.--

8 A. The "space commission working group" is created  
9 to study and make recommendations on the feasibility of  
10 establishing a space commission and drafting a proposal for  
11 the structure and scope of the space commission. The working  
12 group shall consist of:

- 13 (1) one member appointed by the governor;  
14 (2) one member appointed by the lieutenant  
15 governor;  
16 (3) one member appointed by the president  
17 pro tempore of the senate;  
18 (4) one member appointed by the speaker of  
19 the house of representatives;  
20 (5) one member appointed by the minority  
21 floor leader of the house of representatives; and  
22 (6) one member appointed by the minority  
23 floor leader of the senate.

24 B. In making appointments to the space commission  
25 working group, prioritization shall be made for persons with

1 experience in commercial aerospace, civil aviation, space  
2 economic development, space-related academic research and  
3 nonprofit work that supports the space economy.

4 C. Appointment of members to the space commission  
5 working group shall be made by July 1, 2026. Members  
6 appointed shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing  
7 officer. A vacancy shall be filled within thirty days after  
8 the vacancy occurs in the manner of the original appointment.

9 D. The space commission working group shall elect  
10 a chair from its membership. The working group shall meet at  
11 the call of the chair or at the request of a majority of its  
12 members, as necessary to carry out its duties, but not less  
13 than once per month. A majority of the members constitutes a  
14 quorum for the transaction of business, and the support of a  
15 majority of the members is required for adoption of any  
16 action.

17 E. The space commission working group shall study  
18 and develop a report of its recommendations regarding the  
19 establishment of a space commission, including:

20 (1) the feasibility of establishing a space  
21 commission as the statewide authority for the aerospace  
22 industry;

23 (2) the identification of key stakeholders  
24 currently involved in civil and commercial aerospace;

25 (3) a strategic plan for the space

1 commission that details its authority, scope of work and  
2 responsibilities, including educational and workforce  
3 pathways; and

4 (4) the design for a board of directors for  
5 the space commission, including the composition of its  
6 members, structure, scope of work, responsibilities and  
7 budgetary requirements.

8 F. By October 1, 2026, the space commission  
9 working group shall report its findings and recommendations  
10 to the interim legislative committee that studies economic  
11 development.

12 G. Members of the space commission working group  
13 are entitled to receive per diem and mileage as provided in  
14 the Per Diem and Mileage Act and shall receive no other  
15 compensation, perquisite or allowance for their service on  
16 the working group.

17 H. The economic development department shall  
18 provide the necessary staff and administrative support to the  
19 space commission working group, and the department may hire  
20 one staff member to support the space commission working  
21 group.

22 I. The space commission working group shall be  
23 dissolved effective December 31, 2026. \_\_\_\_\_

s/Javier I. Martínez  
Javier I. Martínez, Speaker  
House of Representatives

s/Lisa M. Ortiz McCutcheon  
Lisa M. Ortiz McCutcheon, Chief Clerk  
House of Representatives

s/Howie C. Morales  
Howie C. Morales, President  
Senate

s/Cheri Lujan Hamilton  
Cheri Lujan Hamilton, Chief Clerk  
Senate

Approved by me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

s/Michelle Lujan Grisham  
Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor  
State of New Mexico