

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2026

INTRODUCED BY

DISCUSSION DRAFT

A JOINT RESOLUTION

PROPOSING TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION OF NEW MEXICO BY ADDING A
 NEW SECTION OF ARTICLE 2 TO PROVIDE THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE
 WITH ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO CLEAN AND
 HEALTHY AIR, WATER, SOIL AND ENVIRONMENTS; HEALTHY FLORA, FAUNA
 AND HABITATS; A STABLE CLIMATE AND THRIVING ECOSYSTEMS; AND THE
 PRESERVATION OF THE NATURAL, CULTURAL AND HEALTHFUL QUALITIES
 OF THE ENVIRONMENT, AND DIRECTS THE STATE, COUNTIES AND
 MUNICIPALITIES TO SERVE AS TRUSTEES OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF
 NEW MEXICO FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL PEOPLE.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. It is proposed to amend Article 2 of the
 constitution of New Mexico by adding a new section to read:

"A. The people of the state shall have a right to
 clean and healthy air, water, soil and environments; healthy

underscored material = new
 [bracketed material] = delete

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1 flora, fauna and habitats; a stable climate and thriving
2 ecosystems; and the preservation of the natural, cultural and
3 healthful qualities of the environment. The state, counties
4 and municipalities shall protect these rights equitably for all
5 people, including future generations, and regardless of race,
6 ethnicity, tribal affiliation, gender, socioeconomics or
7 geography. Securing a more stable climate, including for
8 future generations, is a compelling state interest and shall be
9 a high priority.

10 B. The state, counties and municipalities shall
11 serve as trustees of the natural resources of New Mexico and
12 shall conserve, protect and maintain these resources for the
13 benefit of all the people, including present and future
14 generations, who are the beneficiaries.

15 C. The provisions of this section are self-
16 executing. Monetary damages shall not be awarded for a
17 violation of this section. This section is enforceable against
18 the state, counties and municipalities."

19 SECTION 2. The amendment proposed by this resolution
20 shall be submitted to the people for their approval or
21 rejection at the next general election or at any special
22 election prior to that date that may be called for that
23 purpose.