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A MEMORIAL

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR A STUDY OF CARBON FEE AND DIVIDEND
LEGISLATION.

WHEREAS, the weight of scientific evidence indicates
that greenhouse gas emissions from human activities, including
the burning of fossil fuels and other sources, are causing
rising global temperatures; and

WHEREAS, the weight of scientific evidence also
indicates that a return from the current concentration of more
than four hundred parts per million of carbon dioxide in the
atmosphere to three hundred fifty parts per million of carbon
dioxide or less is necessary to slow or stop the rise in
global temperatures; and

WHEREAS, further increases in global temperatures pose
imminent and substantial dangers to human health, the natural
environment, the economy and national security and an
unacceptable risk of catastrophic impacts to human
civilization; and

WHEREAS, several other states have begun to address
greenhouse gas emissions, with carbon pricing bills already
introduced in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Washington, New
York, Oregon, California and Vermont, with various active
campaigns in other states; and

WHEREAS, carbon fee and dividend legislation could be

1 considered as a component of the New Mexico energy roadmap, a
2 project created to define the steps needed to move to a more
3 diverse energy portfolio while improving economic outcomes
4 for New Mexico; and

5 WHEREAS, phasing in carbon fees on greenhouse gas
6 emissions is the most efficient, transparent and enforceable
7 mechanism to drive an effective and fair transition to a
8 low-carbon energy economy, stimulate investment in
9 alternative energy technologies and give all businesses
10 powerful incentives to increase their energy efficiency and
11 reduce their carbon footprints in order to remain
12 competitive;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
14 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that a study of carbon fee and dividend
15 legislation be supported; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the appropriate legislative
17 interim committee study how a carbon fee could be implemented
18 in New Mexico and its effects on the economy, jobs, health
19 and greenhouse gas emissions; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
21 transmitted to the co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative
22 council.

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