

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 2

2 **44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION,**  
3 **2000**

4 INTRODUCED BY

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10  
11 A JOINT MEMORIAL

12 REQUESTING STATE EXECUTIVE AGENCIES TO MAINTAIN CURRENT  
13 LEVELS OF PUBLIC SERVICE IN RURAL NEW MEXICO AND TO MINIMIZE  
14 CLOSURE OF FIELD OFFICES DUE TO THE NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACT  
15 ON SMALL AND REMOTE RURAL COMMUNITIES.  
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17  
18 WHEREAS, many rural communities are being hurt by  
19 systematic reduction of public services by state executive  
20 agencies; and

21 WHEREAS, the labor department, taxation and revenue  
22 department, human services department, New Mexico state  
23 police, department of environment, department of health,  
24 state highway and transportation department and department of  
25 game and fish are some of the agencies that have reduced or  
closed field offices and reduced public services in rural New  
Mexico; and

WHEREAS, constituents in rural areas must travel great

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1 distances to obtain public services due to the closure of  
2 field offices and are significantly harmed by the loss of  
3 public services; and

4 WHEREAS, local governments already on the thin edge of  
5 fiscal health are devastated by the loss of field offices  
6 closed in the name of fiscal efficiency; and

7 WHEREAS, "taxes" on rural citizens have been raised  
8 through the increase of users fees and out-of-pocket costs  
9 that they must bear to obtain even minimal public services;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
11 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that state executive agencies continue to  
12 provide equal access to state services for rural citizens and  
13 communities and to evaluate the impact of field office  
14 closures, reductions in staff and public service cutbacks on  
15 rural economies; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
17 transmitted to the governor, each cabinet secretary and  
18 agency administrator and the members of the legislative  
19 finance committee.