1	SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 45
2	45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2002
3	I NTRODUCED BY
4	Carlos R. Cisneros
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10	A JOINT MEMORIAL
11	REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO DIRECT THE
12	APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE ISSUE OF ABANDONED MINES
13	AND THE HAZARD THEY POSE TO PUBLIC SAFETY.
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15	WHEREAS, abandoned mines can present a danger to hikers,
16	hunters, explorers, rockhounds and other citizens of New
17	Mexico; and
18	WHEREAS, over forty people lose their lives annually in
19	abandoned mines; and
20	WHEREAS, rescuers and emergency personnel may not be
21	familiar with the hazards of a particular abandoned mine and
22	are put at risk while attempting to rescue people lost or
23	trapped in abandoned mines; and
24	WHEREAS, there is lack of jurisdictional coordination and
25	information exchange between the state mine inspector, the
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<u>underscored mterial = new</u> [<del>bracketed mterial</del>] = delete department of public safety, local emergency response agencies and the federal mine safety and health administration; and

WHEREAS, a standardized approach to abandoned mine disaster and emergency response could reduce injuries and life-threatening situations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council be requested to direct the appropriate interim committee to review the issue of abandoned mine safety and emergency response; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the appropriate committee report its findings and recommendations to the first session of the forty-sixth legislature to increase New Mexico's ability to respond effectively to abandoned mine emergencies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the members of the New Mexico legislative council.

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