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SENATE BILL 401

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY

Timothy Z. Jennings

AN ACT

RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCES; CREATING THE NATURAL RESOURCE
REVENUE RECOVERY TASK FORCE; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

Section 1. FINDINGS. -- The legislature finds that:

- A. many federal laws enacted to assist rural economies have had unintended negative consequences;
- B. many New Mexico citizens rely on small family farms and ranches for their livelihood, and agriculture and extractive resource industries play a major role in the state's economy as a whole;
- C. many New Mexico consumers rely on locally produced food for their families; and
- D. unintended consequences of law have created economic hardship throughout rural New Mexico and have harmed

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1 the state's economy.

2 Section 2. NATURAL RESOURCE REVENUE RECOVERY TASK FORCE--
3 CREATED-- MEMBERS-- DUTIES. --

4 A. There is created in the state land office an
5 advisory task force that shall be known as the "natural
6 resource revenue recovery task force".

7 B. The task force shall be composed of nine
8 members. The speaker of the house of representatives and the
9 president pro tempore of the senate shall each appoint two
10 members who represent affected counties and are knowledgeable
11 about agricultural and rural issues. The governor shall
12 appoint three members and the commissioner of public lands
13 shall appoint two members who:

14 (1) are county commissioners from affected
15 counties;

16 (2) represent the different geographic regions
17 of the state, including north, south, east and west;

18 (3) are knowledgeable about agricultural,
19 forest, mining or other extractive industries and water issues;
20 or

21 (4) are nominated by rural counties in the New
22 Mexico association of counties.

23 C. The task force shall:

24 (1) review and analyze the historical and
25 current differences between the prices received by agricultural

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1 producers and the prices paid by consumers;

2 (2) gather and compile information on the
3 impact of the federal laws that affect agriculture and
4 extraction industries, specifically the Agriculture Adjustment
5 Act and the National Industrial Recovery Act as originally
6 enacted;

7 (3) evaluate the United States congress's
8 original objectives to stabilize commodity prices and rural
9 income, manage public lands for multiple use, preserve grazing
10 and water rights and foster timber harvests compared to the
11 laws' outcomes;

12 (4) assess the relationship of these laws with
13 the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, Kearny's Code and the
14 preservation of New Mexico's private property rights contained
15 in the United States constitution;

16 (5) define the economic impact of the
17 Agriculture Adjustment Act and the National Industrial Recovery
18 Act upon agricultural producers, natural resource industries
19 and related businesses and the impact on county and state
20 revenues;

21 (6) develop state policies to counteract the
22 negative effect of federal law; and

23 (7) report its findings and recommendations
24 annually by December 1 to the New Mexico legislative council
25 and the governor.

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1 D. The chair of the task force shall be elected by
2 the task force, and the task force shall meet at the call of
3 the chair.

4 E. The public members of the task force shall
5 receive per diem and mileage pursuant to the Per Diem and
6 Mileage Act.

7 F. The staff for the task force shall be provided
8 by the state land office.

9 Section 3. TERMINATION OF TASK FORCE--DELAYED REPEAL. --
10 The natural resource revenue recovery task force is terminated
11 on July 1, 2007 pursuant to the Sunset Act. The task force
12 shall continue to operate according to the provisions of this
13 act until July 1, 2008. Effective July 1, 2008, this act is
14 repealed.

15 Section 4. APPROPRIATION.--One hundred thousand dollars
16 (\$100,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the state
17 land office for expenditure in fiscal year 2004 to pay for the
18 operations of the natural resource revenue recovery task force.
19 Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of
20 fiscal year 2004 shall revert to the general fund.