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SENATE MEMORIAL 34

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

INTRODUCED BY

Ben D. Altamirano

A MEMORIAL

**REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO REINSTATE
THE RURAL BORDER PATROL OPERATIONS TRAINING PROGRAM AT NEW
MEXICO INSTITUTE OF MINING AND TECHNOLOGY.**

**WHEREAS, the antiterrorism assistance training program of
the United States department of state established a rural
border patrol operations training program at New Mexico
institute of mining and technology in 1998, and almost fifty
classes have been conducted at the institute since then; and**

**WHEREAS, funding for the program at New Mexico institute
of mining and technology has declined from about one million
seven hundred thousand dollars (\$1,700,000) in fiscal year 2001
to nine hundred thousand dollars (\$900,000) in fiscal year
2003; and**

WHEREAS, in addition to the impact on New Mexico institute

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1 of mining and technology and the community of Socorro, the loss
2 of the best resources available for training to foreign allies
3 will hamper the security of these countries and the frontline
4 defense of the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, the principal reason for the relocation of the
6 rural border patrol operations training program was the
7 perceived economic benefit of consolidating training elsewhere,
8 but the potential for greater savings exists if consolidation
9 occurs at New Mexico institute of mining and technology; and

10 WHEREAS, economies of scale available at the institute's
11 facilities will help realize actual cost savings and permit
12 full utilization of existing high-quality training facilities;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
14 OF NEW MEXICO that the United States department of state be
15 requested to reverse the decision to relocate the rural border
16 patrol operations training program, to reestablish the hostage
17 negotiation training at New Mexico institute of mining and
18 technology, increase the antiterrorist bomb training course at
19 the institute and relocate the antiterrorist assistance
20 representative to Socorro; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
22 transmitted to the United States secretary of state and to the
23 New Mexico congressional delegation.