1	SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 4
2	46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2004
3	INTRODUCED BY
4	Phil A. Griego
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10	A JOINT MEMORIAL
11	REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR AND THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO
12	SEEK FUNDS FROM THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY FOR
13	REMOVAL OF DEAD TREES POSING A FIRE HAZARD.
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15	WHEREAS, the recent wildfires in California provide a
16	lesson to New Mexico and an impetus to address its wildfire
17	hazard, which exists in the form of forests of dead trees
18	killed by the bark beetle infestation; and
19	WHEREAS, California Governor Gray Davis had requested fire
20	prevention assistance from the federal emergency management
21	agency last April; and
22	WHEREAS, his request was initially ignored and was then
23	formally turned down in October, after thousands of homes and
24	many lives were lost; and
25	WHEREAS, California now must receive disaster assistance
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from the federal emergency management agency; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico has also experienced disastrous wildfires that destroyed homes, businesses and forest resources, and communities located near forests are again in jeopardy; and

WHEREAS, salvage operations in forests near communities such as Santa Fe, Pecos, Las Vegas and Los Alamos could provide needed employment for New Mexicans, as well as fuel wood to heat homes this winter;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor and the congressional delegation be requested to seek funds from the federal emergency management agency to remove dead trees killed by the bark beetle infestation and thus reduce the wildfire hazard; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the governor and to the congressional delegation.

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