A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING A STUDY TO IMPROVE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE PARKS DIVISION OF THE ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT AND THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

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WHEREAS, the mission of the public education department is to create and maintain a customer-focused organization that provides leadership and service to improve education; and

10 WHEREAS, the mission of the state parks division of the 11 energy, minerals and natural resources department is to protect and enhance natural resources, provide recreational 12 13 facilities and opportunities and promote public safety and 14 education to benefit and enrich the lives of park visitors; 15 and

WHEREAS, the public education department and the state parks division are both guided by principles of dedication to education and customer service; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico's state parks have unique natural and cultural resources, receive over four million visits annually and offer outstanding opportunities for education 22 outside the classroom; and

WHEREAS, improved use of the state parks as outdoor classrooms and increased use of the state parks division education staff in schools would help New Mexico's children

SJM 24 Page 1 to learn about and appreciate New Mexico's heritage while
 meeting content standards, benchmarks and performance
 standards required in curriculum;

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the public education department and the state parks division of the energy, minerals and natural resources department should be requested to prepare a study outlining opportunities for increased partnerships between the two agencies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this study be transmitted to the legislative education study committee by November 1, 2005; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
transmitted to the secretary of public education and the
secretary of energy, minerals and natural resources. _______ SJM 24 Page 2