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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 24  
**48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007**

INTRODUCED BY  
Ray Begaye

A JOINT MEMORIAL  
REQUESTING A STUDY OF PROCEDURES FOR AND THE IMPLICATIONS OF  
FORMAL STATE RECOGNITION OF INDIAN NATIONS, TRIBES AND PUEBLOS.

WHEREAS, the state has long recognized the importance of  
the Indian nations, tribes and pueblos located within the  
state; and

WHEREAS, the state has created a cabinet-level Indian  
affairs department to address relations between the state and  
Indian nations, tribes and pueblos located within the state;  
and

WHEREAS, since 1895, the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe has had  
approximately one hundred ten thousand acres of its reservation  
lands located within the state; and

WHEREAS, the Ute Mountain Ute tribal lands within the  
state are used for traditional purposes and resource

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1 development, including grazing and oil and gas extraction; and

2 WHEREAS, many members of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe live  
3 and work in the state; and

4 WHEREAS, the Ute Mountain Ute tribal council passed a  
5 resolution on July 5, 2005, requesting the state to formally  
6 recognize the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe; and

7 WHEREAS, the state does not currently have a formal method  
8 of recognizing any Indian nations, tribes and pueblos located  
9 within the state;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
11 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the office of the attorney general and  
12 the Indian affairs department be requested to investigate the  
13 potential impact to the state of formal recognition of Indian  
14 nations, tribes and pueblos located within the state and  
15 alternative methods by which the state may formally recognize  
16 Indian nations, tribes and pueblos located within the state;  
17 and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the office of the attorney  
19 general and the Indian affairs department be requested to  
20 report their findings and recommendations no later than October  
21 1, 2007 to the appropriate interim committees of the  
22 legislature; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
24 transmitted to the New Mexico attorney general, the secretary  
25 of Indian affairs, the president of the Navajo Nation, the

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1 president of the Jicarilla Apache Nation, the president of the  
2 Mescalero Apache Tribe, the chair of the Ute Mountain Ute  
3 Tribe, the governors of the nineteen Indian pueblos and the  
4 chair of the all Indian pueblo council.

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