

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 49

48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007

INTRODUCED BY

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A JOINT MEMORIAL

URGING THE REESTABLISHMENT OF FEDERAL FUNDING AND SUPPORT TO
HELP MITIGATE THE NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACTS CAUSED BY
DOWNSIZING AT LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY AND HELP BUILD A
DIVERSE, SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY IN NORTH CENTRAL NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, Los Alamos national laboratory was established over sixty-three years ago; and

WHEREAS, Los Alamos national laboratory's budget of more than two billion dollars (\$2,000,000,000) represents a significant regional economic engine; and

WHEREAS, Los Alamos national laboratory's total workforce of approximately fifteen thousand makes it the largest employer in northern New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, Los Alamos national laboratory provides employment for New Mexicans from many counties, including Los

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Alamos, Santa Fe, Rio Arriba, Sandoval, Bernalillo and Taos counties: and

WHEREAS, the federal government "rebid" the contract for management and operation of the Los Alamos national laboratory, and the new contract took effect on June 1, 2006; and

WHEREAS, the new contract caused a change in the taxable status of Los Alamos national laboratory's operations; and

WHEREAS, the change in tax status has had enormous fiscal impact on Los Alamos national laboratory, including a budget deficit, reductions in workforce and other changes that have adversely impacted the people and economy of north central New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, Los Alamos national laboratory's new taxable status requires that it pay approximately forty million dollars (\$40,000,000) to Los Alamos county and fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000) to the state of New Mexico in gross receipts taxes; and

WHEREAS, the federal government established a precedent of providing assistance in 1995 when it provided a grant to help mitigate the regional economic impacts due to downsizing of Los Alamos national laboratory in 1994-1995;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that New Mexico's congressional delegation and the entire United States congress be urged to reestablish

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the federal funding and support that existed in order to help mitigate the negative economic impacts caused by Los Alamos national laboratory downsizing and to help build a diverse, sustainable economy in north central New Mexico; and

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

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