## A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATURE SET AN EXAMPLE IN RECYCLING FOR THE STATE BY EXPANDING RECYCLING IN THE STATE CAPITOL AND SUPPORTING STATE AND LOCAL RECYCLING PROGRAMS.

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WHEREAS, the legislature passed the Solid Waste Act in 1990 that requires state government to recycle; and

WHEREAS, the Solid Waste Act requires government agencies and the legislature to send recycling plans to the solid waste bureau of the department of environment; and

WHEREAS, state capitol employees and legislators have been recycling paper, cardboard boxes and computers and they are starting to recycle aluminum cans and plastic bottles; and

WHEREAS, by increasing its recycling, the legislature can set an example for all New Mexicans; and

WHEREAS, there should be additional recycling bins located in convenient locations in the state capitol and other government buildings so that recycling can be easy for everyone; and

WHEREAS, many people, including wild friends students, 22 have big dreams about creating jobs that help the environment, and recycling industries create new jobs; and

24 WHEREAS, New Mexico needs more recycling plants so that 25 communities can have recycling programs; and

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1	LUEDEAS producing on aluminum con from recursied	
	WHEREAS, producing an aluminum can from recycled	
2	material saves up to ninety-five percent of the energy needed	
3	to produce a can from raw material, thereby reducing the	
4	production of greenhouse gases; and	
5	WHEREAS, the United States uses more than ninety million	
6	tons of paper and paperboard a year and five hundred thousand	
7	trees are cut down to make Sunday newspapers; and	
8	WHEREAS, recycling paper and cardboard saves trees for	
9	wildlife habitat; and	
10	WHEREAS, the average New Mexican generates five pounds	
11	of trash per day; and	
12	WHEREAS, recycling saves landfill space and reduces	
13	methane gas emissions; and	
14	WHEREAS, plastics and metal trash can cause suffocation,	
15	block digestive tracts or cut the mouths of wild creatures	
16	who attempt to ingest them; and	
17	WHEREAS, plastic trash can harm wildlife by trapping	
18	small animals, entangling the feet of large animals and	
19	wrapping around the beaks and necks of birds; and	
20	WHEREAS, recycling makes a cleaner world for people,	
21	future generations and wildlife; and	
22	WHEREAS, last year, the United States recycling rate was	
23	thirty-two percent, but New Mexicans recycled only ten	
24	percent of recyclable materials, which does not send a good	
25	message about New Mexico to other people; and	SJM 20 Page 2

WHEREAS, the legislature recognizes the wild friends students for working to create model recycling programs at their own schools and for educating others about the importance of recycling; and

WHEREAS, the legislature supports recycling in schools and encourages school districts to develop recycling programs in all schools, including placement of recycling bins and pick-up services on school campuses; and

WHEREAS, the legislature encourages communities to set up recycling programs, including curbside recycling; and

WHEREAS, the governor has declared New Mexico to be a "green state"; and

WHEREAS, all New Mexicans should be able to recycle easily;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that recycling by the legislature's members and employees, state and local governments, schools, communities and the public and the development of recycling plants and jobs in New Mexico be supported; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature increase funding to the legislative building services budget to purchase additional recycling bins for paper, aluminum, glass and plastic for the use of the public, employees and legislators; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that additional recycling SJM 20

services for the state capitol be in place no later than
 January 2009; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature request all state agencies to send state agency waste reduction and recycling plan worksheets to the solid waste bureau of the department of environment by January 2009; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature request the public education department to work with schools to improve recycling programs in schools; and

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 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be

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 transmitted to the legislative council service, the house and

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 senate chief clerks, the office of the governor, the general

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 services department, the public education department and the

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 department of environment.
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