| 1 | SENATE MEMORIAL 60 |
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| 2 | 49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009 |
| 3 | INTRODUCED BY |
| 4 | Sue Wilson Beffort |
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| 10 | A MEMORIAL |
| 11 | REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT TO CONVENE A MEETING |
| 12 | TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO MAXIMIZE THE USE OF BIODEGRADABLE WOOD |
| 13 | CHIPS FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT. |
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| 15 | WHEREAS, each year, millions of pounds of tree branches |
| 16 | and debris are sent through chippers and made into wood mulch; |
| 17 | and |
| 18 | WHEREAS, these chips are reusable as mulch and help to |
| 19 | create healthier soil when plowed into the earth; and |
| 20 | WHEREAS, when spread on top of the ground, these wood |
| 21 | chips hold in moisture and create a weed barrier; and |
| 22 | WHEREAS, much of the volume of wood chips that is |
| 23 | currently deposited at local landfills is being used as waste |
| 24 | and could be used more productively in cities and communities; |
| 25 | and |
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WHEREAS, the potential exists for green-oriented businesses to serve as central distribution units or as entities holding wood chips for pickup by homeowners for their personal use; and

WHEREAS, state agencies can and should use these chips along roadsides, in parks and for other landscaping projects;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of environment be requested to convene a meeting to develop a plan to maximize the use of biodegradable wood chips for the betterment of the environment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that representatives from counties, municipalities and green-oriented organizations and businesses be invited to the meeting to participate in the development of the plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to the secretary of environment.

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