

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THAT STATE AND COUNTY AGENCIES, MUNICIPALITIES,  
3 PUBLIC SCHOOLS, COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES, USING EXISTING  
4 RESOURCES, USE POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY PLANTS IN LANDSCAPING  
5 PROJECTS.

6  
7 WHEREAS, pollinator species are needed for the  
8 reproduction of seventy-five to ninety percent of the world's  
9 flowering plants and more than one hundred fifty human food  
10 crops, according to scientists; and

11 WHEREAS, pollinators are essential for New Mexico's  
12 agricultural economy; and

13 WHEREAS, nationwide, bees pollinate fifteen billion  
14 dollars (\$15,000,000,000) worth of crops, according to the  
15 United States department of agriculture; and

16 WHEREAS, bees are important pollinators of chile and  
17 other New Mexico products; and

18 WHEREAS, grazing animals are dependent on  
19 insect-pollinated legumes, such as alfalfa and clover, for  
20 forage; and

21 WHEREAS, pollinator species are essential to producing  
22 some of the crops that provide fiber and medicines; and

23 WHEREAS, flying insects, including bees and many species  
24 of butterflies, moths, beetles and flies, are the most common  
25 pollinators; and

1           WHEREAS, bats and many species of birds, including  
2 hummingbirds, are also important pollinators; and

3           WHEREAS, populations of pollinators, including honeybees  
4 and western bumblebees, have been declining over the past  
5 decade; and

6           WHEREAS, there is a widespread lack of understanding  
7 about the importance of pollination and pollinator species,  
8 and there is a great need to educate the public about the  
9 magnitude of the issue; and

10          WHEREAS, native plants tend to provide superior habitats  
11 for native pollinators; and

12          WHEREAS, the unique flora and fauna of New Mexico  
13 attract tourism and bring income to the state and could be  
14 affected by the loss of pollinators, which help create and  
15 preserve New Mexico's beauty; and

16          WHEREAS, yucca moths are the only insects that pollinate  
17 New Mexico's state flower; and

18          WHEREAS, pollinator habitats tend to be degraded or  
19 reduced by development, pesticide use and other human  
20 activities; and

21          WHEREAS, the loss of pollinators could ultimately  
22 threaten global food webs, biodiversity and human life; and

23          WHEREAS, New Mexico is rich in its variety of native  
24 cultures and pollinators, and pollinated plants are  
25 significant to native peoples for cultural symbolism, foods

1 and plant products; traditional medicines; and plant-based  
2 dyes; and

3 WHEREAS, New Mexicans should be encouraged to plant a  
4 diversity of native flowers and plants to maximize blooming  
5 throughout the growing season and to maximize support of  
6 pollinator diversity; and

7 WHEREAS, everyone's future flies on the wings of  
8 pollinators; and

9 WHEREAS, Mission Avenue elementary school wild friends  
10 challenge every school in New Mexico to build and design  
11 their own self-sustaining flower beds or cactus gardens or to  
12 plant native bushes on their campuses;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE  
14 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that state and county agencies,  
15 municipalities, public schools, colleges and universities be  
16 requested to use pollinator-friendly plants, including native  
17 eco-region specific plant mixtures, in landscaping projects  
18 to create pollinator habitats; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that state and county agencies,  
20 municipalities, public schools, colleges and universities be  
21 requested to consider providing educational signs explaining  
22 what is being done on site to support pollinators; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor be requested to  
24 designate a New Mexico pollinator appreciation week with  
25 appropriate ceremonies and activities that include

1 encouraging the public to take part in planting and  
2 preserving native plant species; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that state and county agencies,  
4 municipalities, public schools, colleges and universities be  
5 requested to collaborate with scientists and organizations  
6 such as the North American pollinator protection campaign to  
7 study and plan pollinator conservation projects for New  
8 Mexico; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
10 transmitted to the office of the governor, the commissioner of  
11 public lands, the New Mexico department of agriculture, the  
12 economic development department, the energy, minerals and  
13 natural resources department, the department of game and fish,  
14 the general services department, the higher education  
15 department, the public education department, the department of  
16 transportation, the New Mexico association of counties and the  
17 New Mexico municipal league. \_\_\_\_\_