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HOUSE MEMORIAL 3

**50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011**

INTRODUCED BY

Yvette Herrell

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING CONGRESS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR TO  
ABSTAIN FROM DESIGNATION OF NATIONAL MONUMENTS WITHOUT LOCAL  
JURISDICTIONAL CONSENT.

WHEREAS, the proposed designation of national monuments in  
the state of New Mexico clearly violates the spirit and letter  
of the federal Antiquities Act of 1906, which requires monument  
lands to be "confined to the smallest area" necessary to  
preserve and protect historical areas or objects; and

WHEREAS, the people of the state of New Mexico, the  
legislature, the governor and congress have not consented to or  
approved this designation, yet the creation of new national  
monuments in New Mexico could potentially have significant  
economic impact on the state; and

WHEREAS, instead of working as a partner to help local

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1 communities and states define and achieve their conservation  
2 goals, the federal government dictates unilateral actions that  
3 affect this country and exclude citizens and local governments  
4 from making land management decisions in communities; and

5 WHEREAS, land management and conservation efforts are best  
6 administered and managed at the local government level; and

7 WHEREAS, the failure of the federal government to  
8 recognize and respect this basic tenet represents an arrogant  
9 usurpation by federal powers and a violation of states' rights;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
11 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it denounce the  
12 designation of national monuments in New Mexico without the  
13 full public participation, consent and approval of local  
14 governments, the legislature, the governor and the congress of  
15 the United States; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that congress and the department of  
17 the interior be requested to take action to prevent the  
18 designation of any national monuments in New Mexico without the  
19 full public participation, consent and approval of local  
20 governments, the legislature and the governor; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
22 transmitted to the president of the United States, the  
23 secretary of the interior, the president pro tempore of the  
24 United States senate, the speaker of the United States house of  
25 representatives and members of the New Mexico congressional

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delegation.