

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 12

2 **50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2012**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Carlos R. Cisneros

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 RECOGNIZING THE ACEQUIA COMMISSION AND ITS WORK ON BEHALF OF
12 ACEQUIA COMMUNITIES.

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14 WHEREAS, acequia organizations and communities are
15 recognized for their embodiment of indigenous agricultural
16 knowledge, sustainable water management and enhanced
17 biodiversity creation; and

18 WHEREAS, acequia hydrology technology is the most
19 efficient and equitable model for the use of scarce natural
20 water resources in semi-arid natural environments; and

21 WHEREAS, acequia communities reflect the centuries-old
22 heritage values of Indo-Hispano cultural patrimony based on the
23 ideals of cooperation, sharing, mutual respect and natural
24 resource stewardship; and

25 WHEREAS, the acequia commission was created by executive

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1 order in 1988 to advise the governor, the interstate stream
2 commission, the United States army corps of engineers and other
3 state natural resource management agencies on what criteria
4 should be used to determine priorities for rehabilitating
5 acequias under new federal funding programs; and

6 WHEREAS, the acequia commission was established by statute
7 by the 1993 legislature as an eleven-member commission, with
8 members serving four-year terms; and

9 WHEREAS, the acequia commission is charged with the duties
10 of serving as advocate and facilitator for communication
11 between local acequia organizations and the state and federal
12 governments, reviewing plans or legislation that affect
13 acequias and presenting its findings to the governor and the
14 interstate stream commission; and

15 WHEREAS, acequia commission members are invested in and
16 capable of representing the acequia systems and communicating
17 the problematic issues and needs of acequia organizations;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
19 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the acequia commission be recognized
20 for its vital contribution to the welfare and continuity of New
21 Mexico's acequia communities and families and its assistance
22 through the years for representing the interests of acequia
23 systems before the office of the state engineer, the governors
24 of New Mexico, the legislature and assorted federal and state
25 agencies; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
2 transmitted to the governor, members of the New Mexico state
3 legislature, the chair of interstate stream commission, the
4 office of the state engineer and the United States army corps
5 of engineers.

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