A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH INSTITUTE TO REPORT TO THE INTERIM COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE FOR WATER AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

WHEREAS, in 1965, the New Mexico water resources research institute was officially approved by the United States department of the interior as New Mexico's designated state institute; and

WHEREAS, water institutes are located in each state, the District of Columbia and three United States territories; and

WHEREAS, in 1966, a memorandum of agreement was signed by the university of New Mexico, New Mexico institute of mining and technology and New Mexico state university establishing statewide cooperation for the institute; and

WHEREAS, in 1970, the New Mexico state legislature

.195946.2
appropriated funding to the institute as a line item in the New
Mexico state university budget and in 2005, the legislature
enacted statutory authority for the institute in Section
21-8-40 NMSA 1978; and

WHEREAS, for more than five decades, the institute has
administered more than three hundred sixty research and
educational projects, funded more than three hundred New Mexico
university investigators, provided training opportunities for
more than two thousand five hundred university students, has
published more than four hundred technical and miscellaneous
reports, maintains a reference room with eleven thousand
documents and maps, hosts a database of one thousand five
hundred people and agencies, maintains a web site and provides
geographic information system data on New Mexico water
resources; and

WHEREAS, the institute supports research to address
critical water problems by encouraging university faculty
statewide to pursue water research while providing training
opportunities for students who will become future water
resources scientists, technicians and managers, and provides an
outlet for transferring research findings to the community and
potential users of research results; and

WHEREAS, the current drought is thought to be the new
normal by some experts, making water policy discussions more
critical;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico
water resources research institute be requested to present
water policy options, including efficiency, watershed
restoration and desalination, to the interim committee
responsible for water and natural resources by December 2014;
and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
transmitted to the co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative
council and to the director of the New Mexico water resources
research institute.

- 3 -