1	HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 8
2	52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015
3	INTRODUCED BY
4	Bill McCamley
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10	A JOINT RESOLUTION
11	PROPOSING TO AMEND ARTICLE 16, SECTION 2 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF
12	NEW MEXICO TO REMOVE THE REQUIREMENT THAT PRIORITY OF
13	APPROPRIATION SHALL BE GIVEN THE BETTER RIGHT WITH REGARD TO
14	THE ADMINISTRATION OF WATER RIGHTS IN THE STATE AND TO REQUIRE
15	PRO RATA ALLOCATION OF WATER FOR AGRICULTURAL USES BASED ON THE
16	AVAILABILITY OF WATER.
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18	BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:
19	SECTION 1. It is proposed to amend Article 16, Section 2
20	of the constitution of New Mexico to read:
21	" <u>A.</u> The unappropriated water of every natural
22	stream, perennial or torrential, within the state of New
23	Mexico, is hereby declared to belong to the public and to be
24	subject to appropriation for beneficial use, in accordance with
25	the laws of the state. [Priority of appropriation shall give
	.198255.2

<u>underscored material = new</u> [bracketed material] = delete

1 the better right.]

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1	the better right,
2	B. The amount of water available for beneficial use
3	in each stream system of the state shall be estimated annually
4	prior to the beginning of the irrigation season, and the amount
5	of water available for current agricultural beneficial uses
6	based upon that estimate shall be allocated on a pro rata per
7	acre basis to each owner of a water right used for agricultural
8	purposes as provided by law."
9	SECTION 2. The amendment proposed by this resolution
10	shall be submitted to the people for their approval or
11	rejection at the next general election or at any special
12	election prior to that date that may be called for that
13	purpose.
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