A MEMORIAL
EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR A STUDY OF CARBON FEE AND DIVIDEND
LEGISLATION.

WHEREAS, the weight of scientific evidence indicates
that greenhouse gas emissions from human activities, including
the burning of fossil fuels and other sources, are causing
rising global temperatures; and

WHEREAS, the weight of scientific evidence also
indicates that a return from the current concentration of more
than four hundred parts per million of carbon dioxide in the
atmosphere to three hundred fifty parts per million of carbon
dioxide or less is necessary to slow or stop the rise in
global temperatures; and

WHEREAS, further increases in global temperatures pose
imminent and substantial dangers to human health, the natural
environment, the economy and national security and an
unacceptable risk of catastrophic impacts to human
civilization; and

WHEREAS, several other states have begun to address
greenhouse gas emissions, with carbon pricing bills already
introduced in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Washington, New
York, Oregon, California and Vermont, with various active
campaigns in other states; and

WHEREAS, carbon fee and dividend legislation could be
considered as a component of the New Mexico energy roadmap, a
project created to define the steps needed to move to a more
diverse energy portfolio while improving economic outcomes
for New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, phasing in carbon fees on greenhouse gas
emissions is the most efficient, transparent and enforceable
mechanism to drive an effective and fair transition to a
low-carbon energy economy, stimulate investment in
alternative energy technologies and give all businesses
powerful incentives to increase their energy efficiency and
reduce their carbon footprints in order to remain
competitive;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
STATE OF NEW MEXICO that a study of carbon fee and dividend
legislation be supported; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the appropriate legislative
interim committee study how a carbon fee could be implemented
in New Mexico and its effects on the economy, jobs, health
and greenhouse gas emissions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
transmitted to the co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative
council.