

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 3

**55TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2021**

A JOINT RESOLUTION

PROPOSING TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION OF NEW MEXICO BY ADDING A  
NEW SECTION OF ARTICLE 2 THAT PROVIDES THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE  
WITH ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO A CLEAN AND  
HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT AND THE RIGHT TO PROTECTION OF THE  
ENVIRONMENT, AND DIRECTS THE STATE TO SERVE AS TRUSTEE OF THE  
NATURAL RESOURCES OF NEW MEXICO FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL NEW  
MEXICANS AND BY REPEALING THE CURRENT POLLUTION CONTROL  
PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 20, SECTION 21.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**SECTION 1.** It is proposed to amend Article 2 of the  
constitution of New Mexico by adding a new section to read:

"A. The people of the state have the natural,  
inherent and inalienable right to a clean and healthy  
environment, including water, air, soil, flora, fauna,

.219698.1

underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1 ecosystems and climate, and to the protection of the natural,  
2 cultural, scenic and healthful qualities of the environment.

3 B. The protection of the state's environment is  
4 hereby declared to be of fundamental importance to health,  
5 safety and the public interest.

6 C. The state, including its political subdivisions,  
7 shall serve as trustee of the natural resources of New Mexico  
8 and shall conserve, protect and maintain these resources for  
9 the benefit of all New Mexicans, including present and future  
10 generations.

11 D. The provisions of this section are self-  
12 executing."

13 SECTION 2. It is proposed to amend Article 20 of the  
14 constitution of New Mexico by repealing Section 21.

15 SECTION 3. The amendment proposed by this resolution  
16 shall be submitted to the people for their approval or  
17 rejection at the next general election or at any special  
18 election prior to that date that may be called for that  
19 purpose.