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HOUSE MEMORIAL 20

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025

INTRODUCED BY

Joseph L. Sanchez

A MEMORIAL

RAISING AWARENESS OF THE CONTRIBUTION OF CERTIFIED WATER AND WASTEWATER OPERATORS TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO ELEVATE CERTIFIED WATER AND WASTEWATER OPERATORS TO ESSENTIAL WORKERS AND FUND A STUDY ON PROVIDING CERTIFIED WATER AND WASTEWATER OPERATORS WITH STATE HEALTH INSURANCE AND RETIREMENT BENEFITS.

WHEREAS, certified water and wastewater operators provide essential services in the state by helping maintain safe and reliable sources of drinking water and treating wastewater for release back into the environment; and

WHEREAS, drinking water contains many substances that can be harmful to human health if not treated properly, including germs, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, lead and arsenic; and

underscoring material = new
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1 WHEREAS, the treatment of wastewater is important in
2 maintaining the health of rivers, lakes and other bodies of
3 water, protecting aquatic life and for reuse for agriculture;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, clean water is critical for a community's
6 recreational activities and economic development; and

7 WHEREAS, certified water and wastewater operators conduct
8 operations and provide services that are essential to the
9 continued operation of critical infrastructure;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
11 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the house of
12 representatives support legislation to elevate certified water
13 and wastewater operators to essential workers and fund a study
14 to add certified water and wastewater operators to state health
15 insurance and retirement benefit programs; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
17 transmitted to the members of the house of representatives.