#### SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 56

#### 42ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1996

#### INTRODUCED BY

#### JOHN PINTO

#### A JOINT MEMORIAL

IN SUPPORT OF THE NAVAJO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY AND ITS REQUEST FOR FEDERAL FUNDING TO COMPLETE THE NAVAJO INDIAN IRRIGATION PROJECT.

WHEREAS, the Navajo agricultural products industry, a farming and agribusiness enterprise located south of Farmington, was formed in 1970 to develop the Navajo nation's economy; and

WHEREAS, the Navajo agricultural products industry's customers include major food companies in the United States and internationally, and their "Navajo Pride" brand has gained excellent consumer acceptance as a high quality product; and

WHEREAS, the Navajo agricultural products industry is a diverse, profitable business enterprise that directly contributes over thirty-five million dollars (\$35,000,000) annually to the regional economy, and the Navajo agricultural

products industry-related activities employ four hundred fulltime employees annually and one thousand two hundred seasonal employees; and

WHEREAS, the Navajo agricultural products industry's future projects include continued crop diversification and a food processing plant that would include modern storage and processing facilities to accommodate customer packaging preferences and peak market demands; and

WHEREAS, the Navajo agricultural products industry relies on water provided by the Navajo Indian irrigation project to cultivate seventy thousand acres, but since the overall completion schedule for the project has been delayed by at least fifteen years, the Navajo agricultural products industry is unable to cultivate its remaining forty thousand acres; and

WHEREAS, delay of the irrigation project would have a tragic, negative impact on the Navajo agricultural products industry and the Navajo nation's plans for a self-sustaining economy in northwestern New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the management board of the Navajo agricultural products industry has requested assistance and support from the United States congress and the president of the United States in securing funding for the Navajo Indian irrigation project and timely completion of the project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it hereby appliand and support the

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Navajo agricultural products industry's work and the Navajo nation's efforts to provide a self-sustaining economy in northwestern New Mexico; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature urge the United States congress and the president of the United States to appropriate forty-six million five hundred thousand dollars (\$46,500,000) in the budget for fiscal year 1997 to continue block 8 construction and begin construction of the Ojo reservoir dam and pump stations of the Navajo Indian irrigation project and subsequent annual appropriations for timely completion of the project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature request from the United States congress and the president of the United States a supplemental appropriation of seven million dollars (\$7,000,000) for the budget for fiscal year 1997 the canal operation and maintenance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature request from the United States congress and the president of the United States a supplemental appropriation of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) for the fiscal year 1996 budget for the frozen potato processing facilities infrastructure from the economic development administration of the United States department of commerce; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to the New Mexico congressional delegation, the

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president of the United States, the Navajo agricultural products industry management board of directors, the president of the Navajo nation and the Navajo nation council.

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#### 1 FORTY- SECOND LEGISLATURE 2 SECOND SESSION, 1996 5 February 6, 1996 6 7 Mr. President: 9 Your **RULES COMMTTEE**, to whom has been referred 10 11 12 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 56 13 14 has had it under consideration and reports same with **15** recommendation that it DO PASS, and thence referred to the 16 INDIAN AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMITTEE. 17 **18 19** Respectfully submitted, 20 21 22

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Gloria Howes, Chairman

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#### FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE 1 2 SECOND SESSION, 1996 5 February 7, 1996 6 7 Mr. President: 9 Your INDIAN & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, to whom **10** 11 has been referred 12 13 **SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 56** 14 **15** has had it under consideration and reports same with 16 recommendation that it **DO PASS**. 17 **18** Respectfully submitted, **19** 20 21 22

John Pinto, Chairman

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11	Mr. Speaker:						
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