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#### SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 21

# 43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1997

#### INTRODUCED BY

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## A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION TO ESTABLISH A CONSUMER AND ENVIRONMENTAL INTERESTS MONITORING SECTION.

WHEREAS, the electric industry is currently undergoing vast and dramatic changes as it is being restructured from a vertically integrated monopoly system regulated fully by the state into a deregulated industry, subject to the influences of the marketplace and competition; and

WHEREAS, although a competitive electric industry can create economic benefits and opportunities through customer choice, the potential for abuses of consumers' interests is also present; and

WHEREAS, with a competitive electric industry, environmental impacts due to power generation are lessened, but environmental interests could also suffer with the shift to

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deregul ation;

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico public utility commission be requested to establish a consumer and environmental interests monitoring section to oversee and evaluate the impacts and benefits resulting from the restructuring of the electric industry and ensure that negative impacts to consumers or to environmental interests be mitigated and that benefits to consumers and the environment be preserved and enhanced; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the New Mexico public utility commission.

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