SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 62

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

INTRODUCED BY

PHIL A. GRIEGO

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE TO IMPLEMENT BEST
MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TO RESTORE THE WATERSHEDS UNDER ITS
JURISDICTION.

WHEREAS, water is a vital resource of the state of New
Mexico; and

WHEREAS, historically those watersheds managed by the
United States forest service once produced the most pristine and
highest quality water; and

WHEREAS, the organic legislation that created the forest
service mandates it to protect watersheds for the purpose of
water production and delivery; and

WHEREAS, lands managed by forest service are producing only
seventy percent of historic amounts of water due to past
management practices; and

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1   WHEREAS, a thirty percent increase of water from forest

2   service lands would benefit the entire water system in the

3   state; and

4   WHEREAS, the state of New Mexico has liability for the

5   delivery of water to other entities for which it has incurred

6   present and will incur future expenses; and

7   WHEREAS, numerous state agencies and departments are

8   struggling with present and future shortages of water; and

9   WHEREAS, past management practices by the forest service

10   have resulted in a dramatic loss of wildlife habitat leading to

11   historic levels of depredation of private property; and

12   WHEREAS, the people and wildlife of the state of New Mexico

13   would benefit from additional water gained through a change in

14   the management of the watersheds by the forest service; and

15   WHEREAS, the forest service has incurred some measure of

16   liability for the water problems of New Mexico because of past

17   watershed management practices;

18   NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE

19   STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the United States forest service be

20   requested to immediately implement best management practices to

21   effect restoration of the watersheds; and

22   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be

23   transmitted to the New Mexico congressional delegation.

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FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION, 1997

March 15, 1997

Mr. President:

Your **CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**, to whom has been referred

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 62

has had it under consideration and reports same with

recommendation that it **DO PASS**.

Respectfully submitted,

_____

Michael S. Sanchez, Chairman

Adopted_____   Not Adopted_____

         (Chief Clerk)   (Chief Clerk)

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Date _____

The roll call vote was 10 For 0 Against

Yes: 10

No: None

Excused: None

Absent: None

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State of New Mexico
House of Representatives

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION, 1997

MARCH 14, 1997

Mr. Speaker:

   Your **AGRICULTURE AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE,**
to whom has been referred

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 62

has had it under consideration and reports same with
recommendation that it **DO PASS.**

Respectfully submitted,

_____

G. X. McSherry, Chairman

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2 Adopted _____   Not Adopted _____

3   (Chief Clerk)   (Chief Clerk)

4

                            Date _____

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6 The roll call vote was _9_ For _0_ Against

7 Yes: 9

8 Excused: None

9 Absent: None

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Underscored material = new
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