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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 38

44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1999

INTRODUCED BY

E. G. Smokey Blanton

A JOINT MEMORIAL

URGING THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO REFUSE TO AUTHORIZE, ENDORSE, RATIFY OR ADOPT ANY INTERNATIONAL TREATY OR FEDERAL DESIGNATION THAT WOULD USURP THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATES.

WHEREAS, President Bill Clinton, in 1997, established by Executive Order 13061 the American heritage rivers initiative with three objectives, including natural resources and environmental protection; and

WHEREAS, the American heritage rivers initiative requires executive agencies to coordinate federal plans, functions, programs and resources to preserve, protect and restore rivers and their associated resources that are important to our nation's history, culture and natural heritage; and

WHEREAS, various federal and state authorities are

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1 already charged with regulating water resources within the  
2 state of New Mexico, and numerous grassroots organizations  
3 across the nation have been founded to protect and conserve  
4 the nation's rivers and watersheds; and

5 WHEREAS, designation of additional areas subject to  
6 federal involvement in land use management would be unduly  
7 restrictive on both the privately and publicly owned land  
8 bordering rivers, much of which is already restrictively  
9 managed for perceived environmental benefits through  
10 designation or proposed designation as wilderness areas,  
11 primitive areas, critical habitat or potential habitat for  
12 endangered species, conservation areas, areas of critical  
13 environmental concern and wild or scenic rivers; and

14 WHEREAS, riparian and general conservation efforts are  
15 best administered and managed at state or local levels of  
16 government, not by an international council or federal entity  
17 that is neither familiar with nor affected by the areas in  
18 question;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
20 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the congress of the United States  
21 refuse to ratify or adopt future treaties making the states of  
22 this nation subject to international intrusion or authority  
23 over states' environmental matters; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the president of the United  
25 States be urged to not authorize or endorse the designation of

1 any river, watershed or river within New Mexico as an American  
2 heritage river; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
4 transmitted to the president of the United States, the  
5 president of the United States senate, the speaker of the  
6 United States house of representatives and the members of the  
7 New Mexico congressional delegation.

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1 FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE  
2 FIRST SESSION, 1999  
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6 February 18, 1999  
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8 Mr. Speaker:  
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10 Your AGRICULTURE AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE,  
11 to whom has been referred  
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15 has had it under consideration and reports same with  
16 recommendation that it DO PASS, and thence referred to the  
17 ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE.

18 Respectfully submitted,  
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22 \_\_\_\_\_  
23 Joe M Stell, Chairman  
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FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION, 1999

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4 Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ Not Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

6 (Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

8 Date \_\_\_\_\_

10 The roll call vote was 7 For 2 Against

11 Yes: 7

12 No: Begaye, Varela

13 Excused: None

14 Absent: None

16 J:\99BillsWP\HJ038

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