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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 44

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

INTRODUCED BY

Joe Nestor Chavez

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE SECRETARY OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION TO MODIFY TIME ZONE BOUNDARIES TO INCLUDE NEW  
MEXICO IN THE CENTRAL TIME ZONE.

WHEREAS, many citizens of New Mexico have expressed  
frustration with the twice yearly adjustment of time mandated  
by the congress of the United States and would prefer to  
remain on mountain daylight time throughout the year and reap  
the many benefits thereof; and

WHEREAS, the federal Uniform Time Act of 1966 has  
preempted the right of a state to elect to remain on daylight  
time but does allow a state to elect to remain on standard  
time; and

WHEREAS, an adjustment of the time zone boundaries to  
include New Mexico in the central time zone would allow New

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1 Mexico to observe time that is advanced one hour from mountain  
2 standard time and thus would be the equivalent of observing  
3 mountain daylight time all year; and

4 WHEREAS, the change to central standard time would extend  
5 daylight all year and provide in the winter months the  
6 benefits that accompany longer daylight in the evening hours,  
7 including reductions in crime, traffic accidents, pedestrian  
8 fatalities and energy consumption; and

9 WHEREAS, in an era when increasing numbers of New Mexico  
10 businesses are striving to increase their markets outside of  
11 the boundaries of New Mexico, it would be a benefit to those  
12 businesses to conduct operations in closer synchronization  
13 with those of businesses in the major commercial centers of  
14 the eastern and central time zones; and

15 WHEREAS, the change to the central time zone would put  
16 New Mexico on the same time as the vast majority of Mexico and  
17 thus would enhance commerce and trade with Mexico;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
19 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the secretary of the United States  
20 department of transportation be requested to exercise his  
21 authority to modify the boundaries of the time zones to  
22 include New Mexico in the central time zone; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
24 transmitted to the secretary of the United States department  
25 of transportation, the governor of New Mexico and the members

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of the New Mexico congressional delegation.

1 FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE  
2 FIRST SESSION, 1999  
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7 February 20, 1999

8 Mr. Speaker:  
9

10 Your GOVERNMENT AND URBAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, to  
11 whom has been referred

12  
13 HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 44

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

17 Respectfully submitted,  
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22 James G. Taylor, Chairman  
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FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION, 1999

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

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

The roll call vote was 6 For 0 Against

Yes: 6

Excused: Abeyta

Absent: None

J: \99BillSWP\HJ044

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