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SENATE MEMORIAL 44

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY

Phil A. Griego

A MEMORIAL

**REQUESTING THE STATE PARKS DIVISION OF THE ENERGY, MINERALS AND
NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT TO STUDY THE CURRENT STATE PARKS
DIVISION FEE SCHEDULE.**

**WHEREAS, New Mexico's state parks are among the state's
finest possessions, protecting irreplaceable natural, cultural
and recreational resources, preserving the unique multicultural
heritage of the state and serving as tremendous economic
assets; and**

**WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 16-2-7 NMSA 1978, the
secretary of energy, minerals and natural resources is required
to ensure that the state parks division is made as nearly self-
supporting as possible; and**

**WHEREAS, unforeseen acts of nature over the past three
years, including fire restrictions and drought conditions, have**

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1 significantly impacted visitation to and subsequent revenue
2 collections from state parks; and

3 WHEREAS, there is strong public interest in having a
4 variety of options for admission to state parks, including
5 single-day admissions, annual day-use passes, annual camping
6 passes and other options; and

7 WHEREAS, it is desirable for visitors to state parks to
8 continue to receive quality services at reasonable and fair
9 rates;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
11 OF NEW MEXICO that the state parks division of the energy,
12 minerals and natural resources department be requested to
13 conduct a study of the current state parks division fee
14 schedule and park revenues to determine a fair and reasonable
15 fee schedule and to make recommendations concerning the fee
16 schedule; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include a survey of
18 state park systems in surrounding states, an analysis of the
19 current cost-effectiveness of each state park in terms of
20 revenue collected and park operational costs and an estimate of
21 potential revenue increases from additional marketing efforts,
22 capital improvements or additional park programs; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study also include an
24 analysis of the current cost evaluation of offering several
25 types of annual passes, including an annual camping pass, as

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1 well as seasonal and promotional entrance passes, and other
2 offerings to meet the interests and needs of the public; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state parks division be
4 requested to report the findings of the study to the
5 legislative finance committee and the interim legislative water
6 and natural resources committee by September 1, 2003; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
8 transmitted to the secretary of energy, minerals and natural
9 resources.

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