

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 10

2 **48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY AND THE VALUABLE
12 URANIUM RESOURCES IN NEW MEXICO.

13
14 WHEREAS, a nuclear renaissance of worldwide scope has
15 emerged, creating an unprecedented gap between the
16 substantially increasing domestic and international demand and
17 the current level of natural uranium production and supply; and

18 WHEREAS, the need for electricity to fuel the nation's
19 economy continues to increase; it is projected that the United
20 States will demand fifty percent more electricity by 2025 and
21 increased reliance on alternative energy sources, including
22 nuclear power, is necessary to meet electricity demand; and

23 WHEREAS, the acceptance of nuclear-powered energy in the
24 United States and worldwide has increased as citizens,
25 including leading environmental activists, recognize nuclear

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1 energy as the most large-scale, cost-effective energy source
2 that can reduce greenhouse gas emissions while continuing to
3 satisfy a growing demand for electric power; and

4 WHEREAS, domestic nuclear utilities require a secure
5 source of domestic, natural uranium in order to have the
6 confidence to construct new reactors that will promote the
7 nation's energy independence and meet electric power demands;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, New Mexico's uranium resources are a tremendous
10 asset for the state, as New Mexico is known to have more
11 uranium resources than any other state in the nation, estimated
12 at six hundred million pounds and worth approximately forty-
13 three billion dollars (\$43,000,000,000) at current market
14 prices and, therefore, represent significant severance and
15 other direct and indirect revenue streams and other benefits
16 for the state of New Mexico and its citizens; and

17 WHEREAS, jobs associated with the uranium industry offer
18 highly competitive wages and benefits packages, and uranium
19 mining will bring much-needed economic development to Cibola
20 and McKinley counties by infusing large levels of new capital
21 investment; and

22 WHEREAS, the city of Grants is proud to be known as the
23 "uranium capital of the world," and the Grants, Milan and
24 Cibola county communities have gone on record in support of the
25 rebirth of the uranium industry in New Mexico; and

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