

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 40

2 **48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2008**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Dede Feldman

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES
12 DEPARTMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND FISH TO COOPERATE IN
13 CONDUCTING A STUDY ON OFF-ROAD MOTORIZED VEHICLE USE.

14
15 WHEREAS, there is not a New Mexico centralized, organized
16 database on which to assess and compare the economic, social,
17 historic, cultural, archaeological and environmental
18 contributions and impacts of non-motorized outdoor recreation,
19 including hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, horseback riding,
20 bird watching, mountain biking, archaeological exploration,
21 natural resources education, agriculture and ranching with
22 motorized recreation; and

23 WHEREAS, other state studies have found that motorized
24 recreation is negatively impacting non-motorized recreation
25 that results in significant costly consequences; and

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1 WHEREAS, in order for state and local governments to
2 appropriately and adequately address both management problems
3 and solutions, it is essential to have factual and science-
4 based information to make the most prudent choices for
5 expenditure of revenues both in the immediate future and the
6 long run; and

7 WHEREAS, there are many sources of information on the
8 economic benefits and costs of both non-motorized and motorized
9 off-road vehicle recreation, but there is not any New Mexico
10 study that has assimilated, analyzed and summarized that
11 information in a central study or created an economic,
12 cultural, social, archaeological and environmental matrix for
13 all recreation users that could serve policymakers and land
14 managers to guide decisions; and

15 WHEREAS, goals of sound recreation policy should ensure
16 that income produced from all forms of outdoor recreation
17 exceeds the cost to the public to allow, support and maintain
18 it, and the state's natural, cultural, social, historic and
19 archaeological resources will be protected for use by future
20 generations;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
22 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the energy, minerals and natural
23 resources department and the department of game and fish be
24 requested to cooperate with other state agencies to conduct a
25 study and recommend actions to resolve user conflicts, prevent

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1 future resource damage and provide greater safety protections
2 for motorized recreation users; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include a
4 compilation and summary of studies done in other states and
5 regions whose data and recommendations are applicable to New
6 Mexico; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study identify
8 enforcement, monitoring, restoration, institutional and
9 information needs, cost-benefit comparison of motorized and
10 non-motorized recreationists and an inventory of private,
11 federal and state off-road vehicle parks in New Mexico; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include
13 recommendations on what measures need to be in place for the
14 public to have access to statistical information on off-road
15 vehicle accidents, including their locations, types of
16 injuries, incidents, if any, of broken laws and, if required,
17 whether protective gear was worn at the time of injury; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the energy, minerals and
19 natural resources department and the department of game and
20 fish report their findings and recommendations to the governor
21 and the appropriate interim committee of the legislature by
22 December 31, 2008; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
24 transmitted to the secretary of energy, minerals and natural
25 resources and the director of the department of game and fish.

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