

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

SENATE MEMORIAL 37

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

INTRODUCED BY

Steven P. Neville

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING CONGRESS TO APPROVE THE NAVAJO WATER RIGHTS
SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATED BY NEW MEXICO AND THE NAVAJO NATION.

WHEREAS, resolution of the Navajo water rights claims is
to the advantage of the state of New Mexico, the Navajo Nation
and the United States; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico interstate stream commission and
the Navajo Nation negotiated a proposed settlement, which has
been submitted to congress; and

WHEREAS, the proposed settlement calls for increased
diversions to Navajo lands near Shiprock; and

WHEREAS, the priority date of these diversions, 1858, is
significantly older than non-Navajo rights; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico is subject to frequent drought,
creating water shortages that would be borne by non-Navajos;

underscored material = new
~~[bracketed material]~~ = delete

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Navajo lake has extensive storage capacity that
3 could be used to offset these shortages;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
5 OF NEW MEXICO that congress be requested to approve the
6 proposed Navajo water rights settlement as negotiated by New
7 Mexico and the Navajo Nation; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, as part of the settlement,
9 congress be requested to support provisions for storage of
10 thirty thousand acre-feet of water in Navajo lake to be used by
11 non-Navajo irrigators in times of severe drought and water
12 shortages; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
14 transmitted to the New Mexico congressional delegation, the
15 Navajo Nation and the governor.

16 - 2 -