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SENATE MEMORIAL 40

**49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009**

INTRODUCED BY

Richard C. Martinez

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE INTERIM RADIOACTIVE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS  
COMMITTEE TO STUDY AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON NEW MEXICO'S  
PARTICIPATION IN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF INITIATIVES RELATING TO  
GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.

WHEREAS, the New Mexico legislature has taken action to  
reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, the state of New Mexico, through the office of  
the governor, is a signatory and participant in the western  
climate initiative; and

WHEREAS, the western climate initiative has issued its  
final design recommendations for the western climate initiative  
program, which calls for western climate initiative  
participants, including New Mexico, to impose mandatory caps on  
greenhouse gas emissions covering most sectors within their

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1 jurisdiction; and

2 WHEREAS, the implementation of the western climate  
3 initiative final design recommendations for a regional program,  
4 and participation of New Mexico in the initiative, will require  
5 the adoption of appropriate legislation by the New Mexico  
6 legislature; and

7 WHEREAS, the implementation of the program will have  
8 undetermined impacts on the state's emissions, economy,  
9 taxpayers, consumers and industry and, especially during an  
10 economic recession, is of critical interest to the citizens of  
11 New Mexico; and

12 WHEREAS, the environmental benefits, economic costs,  
13 risks, tradeoffs and uncertainties to New Mexico of  
14 participating in the western climate initiative regional  
15 program, or of participating in a federal program, must be  
16 objectively assessed and the results openly communicated and  
17 discussed by public policymakers and stakeholders in advance of  
18 the implementation of any proposed New Mexico greenhouse gas  
19 emissions reduction program;

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
21 OF NEW MEXICO that the interim radioactive and hazardous  
22 materials committee be requested to study and evaluate the  
23 western climate initiative final design recommendations as well  
24 as federal proposals relating to implementation of programs  
25 created to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

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1           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee be requested to  
2 study, evaluate and issue recommendations for legislation,  
3 policies, programs and regulatory approaches, including the  
4 authority of the state to regulate interstate power sales and  
5 greenhouse gas emissions from nonwestern climate initiative  
6 entities and from tribal lands and for approaches proposed by  
7 the western climate initiative that will enable the state to  
8 achieve reductions in greenhouse gas emissions at reasonable  
9 cost; and

10           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee be requested to  
11 consider and address the environmental benefits of such  
12 reductions, as well as the economic and fiscal impacts to New  
13 Mexico taxpayers, consumers and industry resulting from the  
14 adoption and implementation of a greenhouse gas program,  
15 including the impacts to gross state product, state income,  
16 employment, taxation and revenues and price impacts on  
17 electricity, natural gas and petroleum products; and

18           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee be requested to  
19 report its findings and recommendations to the New Mexico  
20 legislature by December 2010; and

21           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
22 transmitted to the governor, the president pro tempore of the  
23 senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the public  
24 regulation commission and members of the interim radioactive  
25 and hazardous materials committee.

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