

A MEMORIAL

URGING THE GOVERNOR TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY IN NORTHWESTERN
NEW MEXICO WHERE SNOWSTORMS THREATEN SURVIVAL.

WHEREAS, northwestern New Mexico has been devastated by
at least three snowstorms, one after another, in recent weeks;
and

WHEREAS, in some places on the Navajo Nation, snow is at
a depth of four feet; and

WHEREAS, such deep snow, especially when layered upon
sheets of ice, is treacherous not only because it is difficult
to walk through but also because it can cause disorientation;
and

WHEREAS, such deep snow forces isolation on people who
live in remote corners of the Navajo Nation as well as those
who may live closer to roads; and

WHEREAS, residents isolated by the snow are likely to
have inadequate food and water supplies; and

WHEREAS, these isolated New Mexicans may be unable to
survive another storm or weather the long period when roads
remain impassable as the snow melts; and

WHEREAS, even the livestock of people isolated by the
storms may be unable to find food and water under snow so deep
it is up to their bellies;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor be urged to declare an emergency immediately for areas in northwestern New Mexico where roads are impassable, animals cannot reach food and water and where residents are unable to get to sources of food, water and medical care; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor be requested to announce his funding decision as soon as possible so that persons snowed under may hear whether they will have to dig out from the snow without state government help; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the governor and the secretary of homeland security and emergency management.