

1 A MEMORIAL

2 EXTENDING HEARTFELT CONCERN FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE EARTHQUAKE
3 IN HAITI AND CALLING UPON STATE AGENCIES, ESPECIALLY THE
4 HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT, TO
5 PURSUE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE AID, ASSISTANCE AND
6 SUPPORT TO THOSE VICTIMS.

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8 WHEREAS, a massive earthquake, registering 7.0 on the
9 Richter scale, struck Haiti just outside of that nation's
10 capital of Port-au-Prince shortly before 5:00 p.m. on
11 Tuesday, January 12, 2010; and

12 WHEREAS, the earthquake was the worst in the region in
13 more than two hundred years, causing unimaginable destruction
14 and affecting an estimated three million people, constituting
15 one-third of the entire population of Haiti; and

16 WHEREAS, schools, hospitals and a prison were all
17 destroyed, along with countless homes, leaving thousands of
18 residents homeless and without food or water; and

19 WHEREAS, many aftershocks have been experienced in the
20 city, including one occurring on January 20, 2010 that
21 measured 6.1 on the Richter scale, almost equaling the
22 strength of the original earthquake, and contributing to
23 further destruction; and

24 WHEREAS, although the world has rushed to rescue those
25 trapped in the wreckage and provide assistance to those

1 without shelter or sustenance, relief efforts are impeded by
2 many factors, including roadways that are blocked by rubble,
3 a small and partially destroyed airport, a nonfunctioning
4 public utility system and the utter destruction of most of
5 the infrastructure of the beleaguered city; and

6 WHEREAS, despite the obstacles, governments and aid
7 agencies worldwide have been marshaling supplies and
8 personnel to get help to Haiti; and

9 WHEREAS, the people of the United States have
10 demonstrated that Haitians are their neighbors in both
11 tangible and intangible ways, as the hearts and pocketbooks
12 of American citizens have been pouring out generous aid,
13 comfort and support to the residents of Haiti; and

14 WHEREAS, the mission of the New Mexico homeland security
15 and emergency management department is "to protect the people
16 of New Mexico and the nation in a coordinated program of
17 mitigating hazards, preparing for emergencies, preventing
18 attack and responding and recovering from events that occur
19 with regard to this cause";

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
21 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that heartfelt concern be expressed for
22 the victims of the earthquake in Haiti and that state
23 agencies, especially the homeland security and emergency
24 management department, be called upon to pursue every
25 opportunity to provide aid, assistance and support to those

1 victims; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all branches of government
3 facilitate and support any and all efforts of employees who
4 wish to contribute aid and comfort to those victims through
5 personal donations; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that individual members of the
7 New Mexico legislature and all citizens of New Mexico
8 consider the best way each person can make a meaningful
9 contribution to provide aid, comfort and support to Haitians
10 in need, including making a donation through a legitimate aid
11 organization, a list of which can be found at
12 http://www.usaid.gov/locations/latin_america_caribbean/
13 [country/haiti/eq/](http://www.usaid.gov/locations/latin_america_caribbean/country/haiti/eq/); and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
15 transmitted to the governor, the secretary of homeland
16 security and emergency management and the majority leadership
17 offices of the legislature.

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