

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE ANIMAL SHELTERING BOARD TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON
3 THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A FUND TO LOWER THE COST OF
4 SPAYING AND NEUTERING CATS AND DOGS.

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6 WHEREAS, the impact of homeless pets on New Mexico is
7 staggering and affects the safety and health of the public;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, unspayed cats can give birth to eighteen
10 kittens a year, and unspayed dogs can give birth to
11 twenty-two puppies a year; and

12 WHEREAS, the spaying and neutering of cats and dogs
13 reduces the number of homeless pets as well as the number of
14 reproductive cancers; and

15 WHEREAS, many New Mexicans cannot afford to spay or
16 neuter their pets due to the high cost of the procedure, and
17 because low-cost spay and neuter programs have been cut from
18 budgets, pet overpopulation has become rampant; and

19 WHEREAS, destroying ten million to twenty million cats
20 and dogs a year costs two billion dollars (\$2,000,000,000)
21 annually; and

22 WHEREAS, the increase in homeless pets has increased
23 animal cruelty cases, costing law enforcement time, money and
24 personnel; and

25 WHEREAS, a spay and neuter fund, created from a

1 surcharge of twenty dollars (\$20.00) added to fines for
2 animal cruelty or animal ordinance violations or from a
3 check-off on state income tax forms or driver's license
4 renewal forms, would decrease the number of homeless pets,
5 thereby reducing the public health and safety hazard;

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
7 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the animal sheltering board be
8 requested to conduct a study to establish the feasibility of
9 creating a fund to specifically aid low-income households in
10 sterilizing, vaccinating and spaying or neutering their pets
11 and to educate the public on the importance of spaying and
12 neutering; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
14 transmitted to the animal sheltering board for further
15 distribution.

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