

HOUSE CONSUMER AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE MEMORIAL 3

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO CONSULT WITH
STATE AND LOCAL INTERESTS, TRIBES AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES
WHEN DESIGNATING NATIONAL MONUMENTS.

WHEREAS, the federal Antiquities Act of 1906 authorizes
the president of the United States to designate as national
monuments "historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric
structures and other objects of historic or scientific interest
that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the
Government of the United States" in the state of New Mexico and
elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, the president has previously exercised this
authority to protect some of New Mexico's most cherished and
significant places, including Chaco canyon, Carlsbad caverns
and White Sands national monument; and

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underscored material = new
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1 WHEREAS, the state probably contains additional sites on
2 federal land that meet the criteria for national monument
3 designation; and

4 WHEREAS, the residents of New Mexico have a clear and
5 compelling interest in how federal lands in the state are
6 managed; and

7 WHEREAS, the federal Antiquities Act of 1906 requires
8 national monument lands to be "confined to the smallest area
9 compatible with proper care and management of the objects to be
10 protected" and necessary to preserve and protect the historical
11 sites or objects; and

12 WHEREAS, the residents of New Mexico wholeheartedly
13 embrace the opportunity to engage constructively and
14 participate in identifying and recommending sites and
15 boundaries of potential national monument designations; and

16 WHEREAS, the president of the United States should
17 recognize and take steps to ensure the interests of the
18 residents of New Mexico in the process of designation of
19 national monuments in the state; and

20 WHEREAS, sustainable land management and conservation
21 policies are best developed and administered with local
22 government and community support and commitment to those
23 policies;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
25 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it request

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1 formal consultation and coordination among the president of the
2 United States, the governor of New Mexico, the New Mexico
3 congressional delegation, the New Mexico legislature, local
4 officials and interested conservation, industry, Indian
5 nations, tribes or pueblos and user groups ensuring
6 transparency and open public participation prior to any
7 designation of national monuments in New Mexico; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
9 transmitted to the president of the United States, the
10 secretary of the interior, the president pro tempore of the
11 United States senate, the speaker of the United States house of
12 representatives and members of the New Mexico congressional
13 delegation.

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