

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 17

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2012

INTRODUCED BY

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A JOINT MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING THE ACEQUIA COMMISSION AND ITS WORK ON BEHALF OF
ACEQUIA COMMUNITIES.

WHEREAS, acequia organizations and communities are
recognized for their embodiment of indigenous agricultural
knowledge, sustainable water management and enhanced
biodiversity creation; and

WHEREAS, acequia hydrology technology is the most
efficient and equitable model for the use of scarce natural
water resources in semi-arid natural environments; and

WHEREAS, acequia communities reflect the centuries-old
heritage values of Indo-Hispano cultural patrimony based on the
ideals of cooperation, sharing, mutual respect and natural
resource stewardship; and

WHEREAS, the acequia commission was created by executive

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1 order in 1988 to advise the governor, the interstate stream
2 commission, the United States army corps of engineers and other
3 state natural resource management agencies on what criteria
4 should be used to determine priorities for rehabilitating
5 acequias under new federal funding programs; and

6 WHEREAS, the acequia commission was established by statute
7 by the 1993 legislature as an eleven-member commission, with
8 members serving four-year terms; and

9 WHEREAS, the acequia commission is charged with the duties
10 of serving as advocate and facilitator for communication
11 between local acequia organizations and the state and federal
12 governments, reviewing plans or legislation that affect
13 acequias and presenting its findings to the governor and the
14 interstate stream commission; and

15 WHEREAS, acequia commission members are invested in and
16 capable of representing the acequia systems and communicating
17 the problematic issues and needs of acequia organizations;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
19 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the acequia commission be recognized
20 for its vital contribution to the welfare and continuity of New
21 Mexico's acequia communities and families and its assistance
22 through the years for representing the interests of acequia
23 systems before the office of the state engineer, the governors
24 of New Mexico, the legislature and assorted federal and state
25 agencies; and

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underscoring material = new
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
2 transmitted to the governor, members of the New Mexico state
3 legislature, the chair of interstate stream commission, the
4 office of the state engineer and the United States army corps
5 of engineers.

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