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SENATE MEMORIAL 11

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

INTRODUCED BY

William H. Payne

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO SCHOOL OF LAW AND
ANDERSON SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF
INCREASING THEIR RESPECTIVE OIL AND GAS COURSE OFFERINGS IN
EFFORTS TO BECOME IMPORTANT SOURCES FOR LEADERSHIP IN THE
SUBJECT AREAS RELATED TO THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY.

WHEREAS, royalties and taxes from the oil and gas industry
represent significant revenues directly and through New
Mexico's severance tax permanent fund, benefiting the public
education system and providing for other important public
services in the state; and

WHEREAS, the oil and gas industry is and must remain an
important part of New Mexico's economic backbone for creating
jobs and generating revenues in communities; and

WHEREAS, the work of this vital industry will continue to

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1 raise important public policy questions regarding environmental
2 protection, natural resources development, sustainability and
3 other related issues; and

4 WHEREAS, the significance of many of the issues associated
5 with the oil and gas industry requires that those issues be
6 debated among legislators, agency officials, experts in the
7 field and others who are educated regarding the relevant facts
8 and complexities inherent in the oil and gas industry; and

9 WHEREAS, during the past two years, the university of New
10 Mexico school of law has been involved in producing important
11 research on oil and gas-related issues, including a study of
12 pore space ownership and another study on natural gas as a
13 transportation fuel; and

14 WHEREAS, many of the state's leading oil and gas industry
15 lawyers were educated at the university of New Mexico school of
16 law, and others have been closely involved in law school
17 activities; and

18 WHEREAS, the school of law recently hosted an informative
19 and helpful legal briefing for legislators in which oil and gas
20 issues were addressed; and

21 WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico school of law has
22 produced many of the state's leaders, including:

- 23 A. more than a dozen state legislators;
24 B. numerous state court judges;
25 C. nine of the fifteen appellate court judges;

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1 D. the presiding and prior chief justices for the
2 New Mexico supreme court;

3 E. the chief judge of the New Mexico court of
4 appeals;

5 F. other public servants, such as a United States
6 senator;

7 G. current and past United States attorneys for the
8 district of New Mexico;

9 H. the current state attorney general;

10 I. the state auditor and his general counsel; and

11 J. the deputy general counsel to the governor; and

12 WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico Anderson school of
13 management also continues to produce leaders and public
14 servants for New Mexico, including Albuquerque's mayor, the
15 state engineer and leaders in the private sector; and

16 WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico Anderson school of
17 management is well-positioned as a focal point for producing
18 leaders in the private sector who will be experts in the
19 complex issues involved in the oil and gas industry; and

20 WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico school of law
21 regularly offers a basic oil and gas course and is currently
22 collaborating with the Anderson school of management to offer a
23 co-listed advanced course in oil and gas law for business
24 students; and

25 WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico is located in the

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1 state's largest population center of Albuquerque, ideally
2 situated to educate New Mexico's students and to provide an
3 environment for objective and dispassionate consideration and
4 research of the many oil and gas industry-related issues; and

5 WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico will continue to
6 produce leaders in the field, and, in order to make wise
7 decisions for the future of New Mexico, those leaders must be
8 highly educated in the issues surrounding the oil and gas
9 industry; and

10 WHEREAS, it is crucial that students in New Mexico not be
11 faced with leaving the state in their efforts to acquire
12 education and expertise in the oil and gas subject matters that
13 are so important to New Mexico; and

14 WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico can provide the
15 critical elements of high-quality study and collaboration with
16 other institutions and can be a key educational force in the
17 growing and vital subject areas pertaining to the oil and gas
18 industry;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
20 OF NEW MEXICO that the university of New Mexico school of law
21 and Anderson school of management be requested to study the
22 feasibility of increasing their respective oil and gas course
23 offerings and programs, along with other course units, in
24 efforts to become even more important sources for leadership in
25 the subject areas related to the oil and gas industry, both now

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1 and in the future; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the university of New Mexico
3 school of law and the Anderson school of management also be
4 requested to create a plan for offering greater oil and gas
5 industry education and related services; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
7 transmitted to the dean of the university of New Mexico school
8 of law and the dean of the Anderson school of management.

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