

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO STUDY A REST
3 STOP ON UNITED STATES HIGHWAY 380 AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE
4 TRINITY SITE NEAR BINGHAM, NEW MEXICO.

5
6 WHEREAS, July 16, 2025 marks the eightieth anniversary
7 of the detonation of the first atomic weapon at the Trinity
8 site near Bingham, New Mexico; and

9 WHEREAS, the Trinity site remains a highly restricted
10 area within the White Sands missile range; and

11 WHEREAS, there is currently no plaque or other marker
12 informing travelers in the area of the great historical
13 significance of this site; and

14 WHEREAS, the lives of many residents of Socorro and
15 Otero counties were greatly impacted in the aftermath of the
16 detonation at the site; and

17 WHEREAS, those individuals impacted by the detonation at
18 the site have become known as "downwinders" and have
19 struggled to achieve recognition of their sacrifice in the
20 development of the first atomic weapon, which ended World War
21 II; and

22 WHEREAS, the federal government has never formally
23 recognized the contributions and sacrifices of the
24 downwinders; and

25 WHEREAS, there are fewer and fewer survivors of the

1 detonation of the first atomic weapon, making it more urgent
2 to acknowledge these contributions and sacrifices;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
4 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the
5 department of transportation be requested to study an
6 appropriate rest stop and memorial to honor the downwinders
7 at the entrance to the Trinity site near Bingham on United
8 States highway 380 as soon as practicable; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department of
10 transportation be requested to study an appropriate roadside
11 informational plaque at the memorial site in consultation
12 with appropriate interested parties; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department of
14 transportation be requested to hold a dedication ceremony at
15 the memorial site on July 16, 2025 to honor the downwinders
16 and to extend an invitation to those individuals and families
17 still living and known to be among the residents impacted by
18 the detonation at the Trinity site so they may be recognized
19 for their sacrifice and contributions; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
21 transmitted to the governor, the secretary of transportation
22 and the Tularosa basin downwinders consortium. _____