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HOUSE MEMORIAL 14

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1998

INTRODUCED BY

JAMES G. TAYLOR

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT ALL COUNTIES PROVIDE RESIDENTS THE OPTION TO
DECLINE COUNTY WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES.

WHEREAS, as a consequence of inadequate revenues to
operate expensive solid waste facilities that comply with
environmental protection agency requirements, many counties
have had to consolidate landfill and other solid waste
facilities; and

WHEREAS, closure of landfills and the attendant increase
in distances traveled and costs incurred by residents for
waste disposal have increased litter and illegal dumping
throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, many counties are trying to cope with the litter
and illegal dumping problem by establishing publicly financed
curbside waste collection services to be paid for from service

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1 charges on all residents in their jurisdictions; and

2 WHEREAS, because New Mexico is one of the poorest states,
3 with a per capita income ranking of about forty-seventh in the
4 nation, making public services such as curbside waste
5 collection mandatory is unfair to low-income residents; and

6 WHEREAS, many subdivisions, neighborhoods and community
7 associations contract with private waste collection services,
8 and mandatory public waste collection charges to residents of
9 these areas is unfair because they would be paying double for
10 services already provided;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
12 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that all counties
13 that establish mandatory services, such as curbside trash
14 collection, be requested to provide residents the option not
15 to participate in trash collection services so that low-income
16 residents are not unfairly taxed and residents already paying
17 for services are not unfairly treated; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
19 transmitted to all boards of county commissioners.

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FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

2 **SECOND SESSION, 1998**

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6 **February 17, 1998**

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8 **Mr. Speaker:**

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10 **Your GOVERNMENT AND URBAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, to**
11 **whom has been referred**

12
13 **HOUSE MEMORIAL 14**

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15 **has had it under consideration and reports same with**
16 **recommendation that it DO PASS, amended as follows:**

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1. **On page 2, line 14, after the word “provide” insert
“relief for low-income residents and those who
contract with private sector providers for
collection/disposal of their solid waste and also
provide”.**
 2. **On page 2, between lines 17 and 18, insert the
following: “BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that “counties
should develop financial reporting systems which
identify the cost to provide solid waste services and**

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION, 1998

which will explain their fee structure; and that”.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynda M. Lovejoy, Chairman

Adopted _____

Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

Date _____

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FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
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The roll call vote was 4 For 0 Against

Yes: 4

Excused: Beam, Pearce, Wallace

Absent: None

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