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HOUSE BILL 496

45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001

INTRODUCED BY

Bengie Regensberg

AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR EMERGENCY DISASTER RELIEF FOR MORA COUNTY; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. APPROPRIATION--EMERGENCY DISASTER RELIEF.--

A. The legislature finds that, because of the recent heavy snows and winds in Mora county:

(1) there are many elderly, sick and disabled persons in several remote rural areas who are stranded and cannot get out of their homes;

(2) there are many homes in rural areas running out of propane because trucks cannot reach their homes on the snow packed roads;

(3) there are thousands of cattle stranded and facing starvation;

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1 (4) the situation is of such magnitude that
2 it is beyond the control of local governments; and

3 (5) state expenditures are necessary to
4 provide those resources and services necessary to avoid or
5 minimize economic or physical harm until the situation becomes
6 stabilized and again under local self-support and control.

7 B. Seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000) is
8 appropriated from the general fund to the local government
9 division of the department of finance and administration for
10 expenditure in fiscal year 2001 to take any action necessary
11 to alleviate the emergency situation in Mora county, including
12 expenditures on a temporary, emergency basis for lodging,
13 sheltering, health care, food, snow removal, any
14 transportation or shipping necessary to protect lives or
15 public property; or for any other action necessary to protect
16 the public health, safety and welfare. Any unexpended or
17 unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2001
18 shall revert to the general fund.

19 Section 2. EMERGENCY.--It is necessary for the public
20 peace, health and safety that this act take effect
21 immediately.