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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 83
45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001
INTRODUCED BY
H. Diane Snyder

A JOINT MEMORIAL
REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO APPOINT AN
INTERIM COMMITTEE TO ANALYZE WATER MANAGEMENT IN NEW MEXICO AND
RECOMMEND IMPROVEMENTS IN THE WATER MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE IN NEW
MEXICO GOVERNMENT.

WHEREAS, water is New Mexico's most valuable and important
natural resource; and

WHEREAS, the future of New Mexico's economic, social and
cultural well-being depends on sound management of the state's
water resources; and

WHEREAS, there is no single department, agency,
commission, board or public official charged with the
management of the state's water resources; and

WHEREAS, neighboring states have become more sophisticated

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1 and advanced with respect to water management and litigation
2 strategies; and

3 WHEREAS, the departments, agencies, commissions and boards
4 charged with the various aspects of water resource management
5 in New Mexico have data and information technology resources
6 that are not integrated; and

7 WHEREAS, the executive branch organizational structure for
8 the management of water has not evolved at a similar pace as
9 our neighboring states and the federal government;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
11 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council be
12 requested to appoint an interim committee to analyze the water
13 management structure within state government and recommend
14 legislation to consolidate the various state entities that
15 administer, regulate or have authority over issues related to
16 water; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the interim committee be
18 requested to take testimony from and work closely and
19 cooperatively with representatives of municipal, county and
20 tribal governments, irrigation districts, acequia associations,
21 environmental groups, business and industry groups and state
22 entities involved in water management and natural resources
23 matters; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the interim committee be
25 requested to report its findings and recommendations prior to

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the second session of the forty-fifth legislature; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to the director of the legislative council service.

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