

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO DISCUSS  
AMELIORATING THE IMPACT OF INTERSTATE 25 WHERE IT PASSES  
THROUGH THE LANDS OF THE PUEBLO OF SANDIA.

WHEREAS, the Sandia people have lived in the area that  
is now known as the Pueblo of Sandia for over seven hundred  
years; and

WHEREAS, the Pueblo of Sandia is a sovereign nation; and

WHEREAS, the Sandia mountains are the source of  
spirituality for the Sandia people; and

WHEREAS, interstate 25 north of Albuquerque, one of the  
most heavily trafficked highways in the state, bisects the  
Pueblo of Sandia's lands in the shadow of the Sandia  
mountains; and

WHEREAS, the traffic on interstate 25 travels at very  
high speeds; and

WHEREAS, on numerous occasions, automobiles involved in  
serious traffic accidents have left the highway and ended up  
on pueblo lands; and

WHEREAS, there are many tribal houses near interstate  
25; and

WHEREAS, the proximity of interstate 25 to these houses  
poses a safety hazard as well as a constant source of noise  
pollution, noxious fumes and debris; and

WHEREAS, interstate 25 intrudes on the privacy of the pueblo, disturbing the pueblo's tranquility; and

WHEREAS, the proximity of the highway particularly impinges on the privacy of members of the pueblo who live near the interstate; and

WHEREAS, the federal highway administration of the United States department of transportation has indicated that noise barriers built along highways can reduce the amount of sound from the highway by up to one-half; and

WHEREAS, the federal highway administration also reports that noise barriers result in cleaner air and healthier lawns and shrubs at homes near the highway; and

WHEREAS, a wall or other barrier on interstate 25 where it crosses pueblo lands would add to the safety of the houses neighboring the interstate; and

WHEREAS, the Pueblo of Sandia has long been a good partner in state-tribal relations, with a history of engaging in constructive negotiations for the good of all of the people of the state; and

WHEREAS, the State-Tribal Collaboration Act mandates communication and collaboration between state agencies and Indian nations, tribes and pueblos;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state department of transportation be requested to discuss efforts

to mitigate the effects of noise and other pollution and improve safety where interstate 25 crosses the Pueblo of Sandia, including the possibility of constructing a security wall or noise barrier; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the state department of transportation and the governor of the Pueblo of Sandia.