

1 A MEMORIAL

2 RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE PUBLIC LANDS LEGACY IN NEW  
3 MEXICO.

4  
5 WHEREAS, approximately twenty-six million acres of land  
6 in New Mexico are owned by the people of the United States  
7 and managed for the benefit of all citizens by federal public  
8 land management agencies; and

9 WHEREAS, New Mexicans have the good fortune to live near  
10 these federal public lands and to benefit from them  
11 economically; and

12 WHEREAS, at least sixty-five percent of New Mexicans  
13 participate in some form of outdoor recreation every year;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, the outdoor recreation economy in New Mexico  
16 generates four hundred fifty-eight million dollars  
17 (\$458,000,000) in tax revenue and six billion one hundred  
18 million dollars (\$6,100,000,000) in consumer spending each  
19 year, while employing more than sixty-eight thousand people;  
20 and

21 WHEREAS, healthy public lands with quality fishing,  
22 hiking, cross-country skiing, camping and other recreational  
23 resources are major factors in attracting new businesses and  
24 jobs to New Mexico that might otherwise locate elsewhere; and

25 WHEREAS, preserving access to outdoor recreation on

1 public lands protects the economy, businesses, communities  
2 and people of New Mexico; and

3 WHEREAS, access to and use of large tracts of healthy,  
4 viable, contiguous public lands are essential to the  
5 perpetuation of traditional New Mexico land uses such as  
6 hunting, fishing, grazing, firewood gathering and pinon nut  
7 and herb gathering; and

8 WHEREAS, all of these activities have long been a part  
9 of the traditional New Mexico lifestyle; and

10 WHEREAS, eighty-nine percent of New Mexico sportsmen and  
11 sportswomen use public lands to hunt and fish; and

12 WHEREAS, hunters and anglers spend more than six hundred  
13 thirteen million dollars (\$613,000,000) annually on  
14 recreational activities in New Mexico, contributing more than  
15 two hundred sixty-seven million dollars (\$267,000,000) in  
16 salaries and wages and fifty-one million four hundred  
17 thousand dollars (\$51,400,000) in state and local taxes while  
18 supporting nearly eight thousand jobs; and

19 WHEREAS, national public lands are generally managed  
20 under a multiple-use mandate and certain local economies,  
21 businesses and individuals are economically dependent on  
22 those lands, and, therefore, changes to land management  
23 practices require collaborative local stakeholder input;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE  
25 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the nation's and New Mexico's

1 founders' foresight and wisdom be honored by protecting a  
2 public lands legacy that is vital to the state and national  
3 economies and to the health and well-being of the residents  
4 of New Mexico; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
6 transmitted to the United States secretary of the interior,  
7 the director of the United States bureau of land management,  
8 the chief of the United States forest service, the governor  
9 and New Mexico's congressional delegation. \_\_\_\_\_

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