

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 14

2 **52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2016**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Joseph Cervantes

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT TO ASSESS THE RISK OF  
12 LEAD CONTAMINATION TO NEW MEXICANS AND TESTIFY TO THE  
13 APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATURE THAT IS CONCERNED WITH  
14 WATER AND NATURAL RESOURCE ISSUES.

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16 WHEREAS, recent national and world attention has been  
17 directed at Flint, Michigan, and the state supply of potable  
18 water; and

19 WHEREAS, the potable and household water supplied to Flint  
20 was eroding the iron water mains, turning water brown; and

21 WHEREAS, because certain water supply lines to homes in  
22 Flint are made of lead, corrosive water caused leaching into  
23 the water supply, in addition to the iron; and

24 WHEREAS, public officials became aware of lead  
25 contamination of water being supplied to and consumed by

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1 residents of Flint, including children, and failed to take  
2 prompt action in response to that information; and

3 WHEREAS, lead poisoning is irreversible, causing serious  
4 neurological injury, and there is no safe level for lead in a  
5 person's bloodstream; and

6 WHEREAS, leaching of lead into drinking water through  
7 delivery pipelines is not a Flint, Michigan, problem alone nor  
8 a problem strictly associated with public drinking water  
9 systems;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
11 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of environment be  
12 requested to assess the risk to New Mexicans of lead  
13 contamination in drinking water and testify by December 2016 to  
14 the appropriate New-Mexico-legislative-council-appointed  
15 interim committee that reviews water and natural resources  
16 issues; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
18 transmitted to the secretary of environment and to the co-  
19 chairs of the New Mexico legislative council.

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