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A JOINT MEMORIAL

DECLARING FEBRUARY 2, 2018 "PUBLIC LANDS DAY" AT THE
LEGISLATURE TO RECOGNIZE AND CELEBRATE THE BENEFITS PROVIDED
TO THE RESIDENTS OF NEW MEXICO THROUGH PUBLIC LANDS IN
NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, New Mexico contains a variety of national
public lands, including national parks, monuments and
preserves; national forests and rangelands; wildlife refuges;
wilderness areas; and other public lands; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico's public lands reflect many noble
democratic ideals because public lands are open and
accessible to everyone, no matter their place of residence,
their race or their ethnicity or whether they are rich or
poor; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico's public lands are defining features
of the state and enrich the state's quality of life by
supporting the vitality of communities and core cultural land
use values representing all New Mexicans' common heritage;
and

WHEREAS, New Mexico's public lands feature an amazingly
diverse range of landscapes, from the snow-capped peaks of
the Rocky mountains to rushing rivers, rock canyons, grassy
plains, desert landscapes and tree-lined mountain valleys;
and

1 WHEREAS, New Mexico's public lands provide many benefits
2 to residents and visitors and support a wide variety of
3 activities, from recreational pursuits to natural resource
4 development and uses; and

5 WHEREAS, New Mexico's public lands have a substantial
6 impact on economic development and jobs through mineral
7 extraction, timber sales, ranching, tourism and outdoor
8 recreational industries; and

9 WHEREAS, New Mexico's public lands contribute to the
10 state's clean air and clean water and are a vital repository
11 of precious and limited water sources; and

12 WHEREAS, the resources of these public lands, including
13 water, minerals, grass for livestock, timber and the native
14 fish and wildlife that depend on these lands, belong equally
15 to all Americans and the sovereign nations that reside upon
16 these lands; and

17 WHEREAS, New Mexicans of all races, ethnicities,
18 occupations and lifestyles continue to derive multiple
19 benefits from the traditional, long-standing multiple-use
20 management philosophy of public lands under the stewardship
21 of the United States forest service and the federal bureau of
22 land management; and

23 WHEREAS, these practices reflect the public support for
24 policies incorporating a judicious balance between aesthetic,
25 recreational and economic values; and

1 WHEREAS, the prudent stewardship, conservation and
2 tempered use of all public natural resources are worthy goals
3 of all governing bodies;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
5 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the public lands of New Mexico be
6 honored by all New Mexicans; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that February 2, 2018 be declared
8 "Public Lands Day" at the legislature; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
10 transmitted to the commissioner of public lands, the
11 New Mexico state director of the federal bureau of land
12 management and the regional forester of the southwestern
13 regional office of the United States forest service._____

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