

1 A JOINT MEMORIAL

2 URGING NEW MEXICO'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO TAKE INTO
3 CONSIDERATION THE IMPACT OF DROUGHT WHEN SETTING FEDERAL
4 AGRICULTURAL POLICY.

5
6 WHEREAS, the United States congress enacts federal
7 agricultural policy through passage of the "farm bill"; and

8 WHEREAS, the farm bill governs nationwide programs
9 related to farming, food and nutrition and rural communities;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, the agricultural industry in New Mexico has
12 annual cash receipts of nearly three billion five hundred
13 million dollars (\$3,500,000,000) and supports more than
14 twenty-three thousand jobs in the state; and

15 WHEREAS, New Mexico has been in a state of drought for
16 the past twenty years, and dry conditions are predicted to
17 continue into the future; and

18 WHEREAS, water agencies serving domestic, irrigation and
19 industrial needs across the state are contending with the
20 reality of a decreased water supply due to persistent
21 drought; and

22 WHEREAS, farming and ranching depend on a consistent
23 water supply to support crops and livestock; and

24 WHEREAS, prolonged drought, decreased snow pack and
25 decreased precipitation affect the flow of rivers and the

1 availability of a consistent water supply for farming and
2 ranching; and

3 WHEREAS, the depletion of aquifers has affected ranching
4 practices;

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
6 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that New Mexico's congressional
7 delegation be urged to take into consideration the impact of
8 drought when setting federal agricultural policy; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
10 transmitted to the members of New Mexico's congressional
11 delegation.

HJM 1
Page 2

12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25