

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 23

45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2002

INTRODUCED BY

W. Ken Martinez

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT TO EVALUATE THE
EXTENT OF THE REMEDIATION NEEDED IN CIBOLA AND MCKINLEY
COUNTIES AS A RESULT OF ABANDONED MINING OPERATIONS.

WHEREAS, many mining operations in Cibola and McKinley
counties may have been discontinued without proper
environmental cleanup, leaving abandoned buildings, equipment
and uranium tailings unattended; and

WHEREAS, such contamination poses a possible threat to
human health and decreases land values; and

WHEREAS, the state is committed to a safe, uncontaminated
environment for all residents; and

WHEREAS, the state is committed to the highest and best
possible use of land;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE

**underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete**

1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of environment conduct
2 an evaluation of the extent of the remediation needed in
3 Cibola and McKinley counties; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department of environment
5 report its findings and recommendations to the appropriate
6 interim committee of the legislature during the 2002 interim;
7 and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
9 sent to the secretary of environment and the co-chairs of the
10 New Mexico legislative council.