

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 18

2 45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2002

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Leonard Lee Rawson

5
6
7
8
9
10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRIES COMMISSION
12 TO REVIEW ITS RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL BUILDING ENERGY CODES
13 IN AN EFFORT TO UPDATE AND IMPROVE THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF
14 NEW MEXICANS' HOMES, BUSINESSES, OFFICES AND SCHOOLS, THEREBY
15 SAVING THEM AND THE STATE MONEY.

16
17 WHEREAS, New Mexico is experiencing the adverse economic
18 effects of tight conventional energy supplies and energy
19 transmission and distribution constraints in the west; and

20 WHEREAS, these adverse economic effects in the form of
21 higher energy prices hurt our quality of life and
22 disproportionately impact low-income and elderly New Mexicans;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, the harmful repercussions of higher energy
25 prices can be greatly minimized or eliminated through diligent

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 and persistent efforts to conserve energy whenever feasible
2 and appropriate; and

3 WHEREAS, energy prices paid by New Mexico citizens,
4 businesses and government can be stabilized or lowered through
5 energy conservation and efficiency; and

6 WHEREAS, new energy-saving technologies and techniques
7 are currently available that could be incorporated in building
8 practices throughout New Mexico at little or no cost; and

9 WHEREAS, the state of New Mexico's commercial building
10 energy code is over fifteen years old; and

11 WHEREAS, the state of New Mexico's residential building
12 energy code is over ten years old; and

13 WHEREAS, updating and improving the state's building
14 energy codes will result in both economic and environmental
15 benefits to New Mexico and its citizens; and

16 WHEREAS, construction costs can often be reduced by
17 improving building envelope performance, thereby allowing the
18 downsizing of mechanical equipment; and

19 WHEREAS, at its annual meeting in August of 2001, the
20 western governors' association unanimously adopted a
21 resolution entitled *Western States' Energy Policy Roadmap*,
22 which includes a policy to "review and improve the energy
23 efficiency of building codes in western states and tribal
24 lands", and if implemented, such a policy could help New
25 Mexico address the long-term energy needs of the state; and

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 WHEREAS, the horrific acts of terrorism experienced by
2 this country on September 11, 2001 have underscored the need
3 for measures that can reduce domestic energy consumption and
4 reliance on foreign oil, thereby increasing our nation's
5 energy independence;

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
7 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the construction industries
8 commission be requested to review its residential and
9 commercial building energy codes so as to update and improve
10 the energy efficiency of New Mexico citizens' homes,
11 businesses, offices and schools thereby saving money; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the regulation and licensing
13 department and the energy, minerals and natural resources
14 department be directed to work cooperatively with the
15 construction industries commission toward improving the
16 state's residential and commercial building energy codes; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that New Mexico licensed
18 architects, engineers, contractors and homebuilders, as well
19 as other individuals and organizations involved in the
20 building construction trade, be encouraged to participate in
21 the process of improving the state's residential and
22 commercial building energy codes; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
24 transmitted to the construction industries commission, the
25 regulation and licensing department and the energy, minerals

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

1 and natural resources department and that the construction
2 industries commission forward copies to the appropriate
3 building construction trade groups or organizations.

4 - 4 -

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25