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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 19

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

INTRODUCED BY

Ben D. Altamarina

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
DEPARTMENT AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO COOPERATE IN A STUDY OF  
ENFORCEMENT OF TRESPASS LAWS AND LAWS GOVERNING REMOVAL OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES FROM PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PROPERTY.

WHEREAS, trespass on public and private property for the  
purpose of removing natural resources for pecuniary gain is a  
common violation of law, yet difficult to prosecute; and

WHEREAS, law enforcement officers routinely stop drivers  
for speeding and to check for compliance with the seat belt  
law or even to search for drugs, but rarely check for proof of  
ownership of natural resources being transported for sale; and

WHEREAS, private property owners must rely on public law  
enforcement agencies to protect property and personal  
security; and

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WHEREAS, trespass and theft are frequent violations that  
can lead to more serious crime;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the energy, minerals and natural  
resources department and the attorney general be requested to  
cooperate in the study of existing laws and their enforcement  
for control of trespass and theft of natural resources from  
both public and private property; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
transmitted to the secretary of energy, minerals and natural  
resources and to the attorney general.