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HOUSE MEMORIAL 49

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2006

INTRODUCED BY

Mary Helen Garcia

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO DIRECT THE APPROPRIATE LEGISLATIVE INTERIM COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE ESSENTIAL WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS OF COMMUNITIES ALONG THE INTERNATIONAL BORDER AND TO RECOMMEND AN AMOUNT AND A SOURCE OF FUNDING TO MEET THOSE NEEDS.

WHEREAS, incorporated and unincorporated communities along the international border with Mexico are among the fastest growing communities in New Mexico and also are among the poorest; and

WHEREAS, the rapid growth of the communities has led to an increased need for adequate water and wastewater infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the growth has also posed a challenge to administrators who continually strive to provide sufficient and

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1 affordable housing, utilities and other public services; and

2 WHEREAS, the federal environmental protection agency has
3 lowered maximum arsenic containment levels for drinking water,
4 and these levels cannot be met by many of the existing water
5 systems without a substantial expenditure; and

6 WHEREAS, the rapid growth of the communities and the
7 income levels of the residents mean that the communities do not
8 have the tax base to provide even a minimum acceptable level of
9 water and wastewater infrastructure;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
11 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico
12 legislative council be requested to direct the appropriate
13 legislative interim committee to conduct a study of the
14 essential water and wastewater infrastructure needs of
15 incorporated and unincorporated communities along the
16 international border with Mexico; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the interim committee
18 recommend the amount of funding that will be necessary to meet
19 those essential needs and a source for that funding; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the interim committee report
21 its findings and recommendations to the first session of the
22 forty-eighth legislature; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
24 transmitted to the co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative
25 council.

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