

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO ASSIST VALENCIA COUNTY TO IDENTIFY FUNDING SOURCES FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A RAILWAY OVERPASS ON STATE ROUTE 109 NEAR JARALES IN VALENCIA COUNTY.

WHEREAS, state route 109 provides ingress to and egress from the south-central part of Valencia county for hundreds of residents of Valencia county; and

WHEREAS, state route 109 intersects with the transcontinental rail line; and

WHEREAS, vehicular traffic on state route 109 exceeds two thousand four hundred vehicle trips per day; and

WHEREAS, the vehicular traffic on state route 109 experiences an average of nine hours per day of delay because of the one hundred ten trains per day that cross the intersection with state route 109; and

WHEREAS, delays to the motoring public and emergency responders pose a significant threat to the health, safety and welfare of those who use state route 109; and

WHEREAS, a grade-separated intersection would provide uninterrupted traffic flow for passenger vehicles, emergency vehicles and trains; and

WHEREAS, the department of transportation has conducted an analysis of this crossing and agrees that a railway

overpass would significantly reduce traffic congestion on state route 109; and

WHEREAS, no known federal, state or local funding is currently available to design and construct a railway overpass on state route 109;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of transportation be requested to assist Valencia county to identify potential funding sources for the design and construction of an overpass over the BNSF railroad on state route 109 just south of Lazy lane near Jarales in Valencia county; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the governor, the secretary of transportation, the Valencia county commission and the Valencia county manager.