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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 7
50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011

INTRODUCED BY
James Roger Madalena

FOR THE INDIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL
REQUESTING THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT TO CONDUCT A
FEASIBILITY STUDY ON RETURNING CONTROL AND OPERATION OF THE
JEMEZ STATE MONUMENT HERITAGE AREA TO THE PUEBLO OF JEMEZ.

WHEREAS, the Jemez state monument heritage area is one of
the most beautiful prehistoric and historic sites in the
southwest; and

WHEREAS, the Jemez state monument heritage area includes
the stone ruins of the village of Giusewa, a five-hundred-year-
old village of the Pueblo of Jemez; and

WHEREAS, the village of Giusewa was built over six hundred
years ago in the narrow San Diego canyon by the ancestors of
the present-day people of the Pueblo of Jemez; and

WHEREAS, the heritage center contains exhibitions that
tell the story of the site through the words of the Jemez

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1 people; and

2 WHEREAS, the Jemez people built villages in the narrow
3 mountain valley and on the tops of the steep, sculptured mesas
4 of their ancestral homelands in the Jemez state monument
5 heritage area; and

6 WHEREAS, the Pueblo of Jemez is a federally recognized
7 Indian tribe with a sovereign government capable of
8 administering the proper care and management of the Jemez state
9 monument heritage area and the historic and prehistoric
10 structures and other objects of scientific interest that are
11 situated in that area; and

12 WHEREAS, the state is currently facing dire revenue
13 shortfalls and is considering reducing the size of state
14 government and eliminating services provided by state
15 government; and

16 WHEREAS, the Jemez state monument heritage area is best
17 left to the control, care and management of the Pueblo of
18 Jemez;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
20 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the cultural affairs department be
21 requested to study the feasibility and requirements for the
22 legislature to transfer ownership and control of the lands
23 owned or controlled by the state in the Jemez state monument
24 heritage area to the Pueblo of Jemez and present its findings
25 and requirements to the appropriate interim committee of the

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1 legislature by November 2011; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
3 transmitted to the governor, the Pueblo of Jemez, the secretary
4 of cultural affairs and the director of the state monuments
5 division of the cultural affairs department.

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