

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION SECURE FEDERAL FUNDING TO
ELIMINATE HIGHWAY-RAIL GRADE CROSSINGS IN MCKINLEY AND CIBOLA
COUNTIES AND REPLACE THEM WITH NEW RAILROAD BRIDGES.

WHEREAS, demand and use of railroad freight service is
forecast to grow significantly in the near future; and

WHEREAS, the length of rail cars and the number of
trains have increased a great deal over recent years; and

WHEREAS, additional rail traffic is raising safety
concerns and creating long delays; and

WHEREAS, emergency vehicles have been blocked at rail
crossings, remaining stopped for significant periods of time;
and

WHEREAS, a respectful working relationship between all
stakeholders has created a fruitful safety culture that aims
to address the harm caused in impacted communities; and

WHEREAS, in good faith, the Burlington northern Santa Fe
railway company is responding with capital expenditure to
match funding; and

WHEREAS, investing in new bridges can improve safety by
separating rail and vehicular traffic, and also will allow
trains to travel faster, to the greater economic benefit to
the nation; and

WHEREAS, the investment may be a catalyst for job creation and improve rail service reliability for on-time performance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the United States department of transportation federal railroad administration and the New Mexico congressional delegation be requested to secure federal funding to build new railroad bridges in impacted communities in McKinley and Cibola counties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to the United States secretary of transportation, the Burlington northern Santa Fe railway company, the New Mexico secretary of transportation, the Navajo Nation division of transportation and the Pueblo of Laguna urban transportation planning division.