

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE STATE ENGINEER AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE
3 INTERSTATE STREAM COMMISSION TO ENGAGE WITH STAKEHOLDERS TO
4 EXPLORE POTENTIAL MEASURES TO ADDRESS WATER SHORTAGES AND
5 INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS.

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7 WHEREAS, most available data indicate that the state is
8 in a drought of historic proportions; and

9 WHEREAS, urban growth during the past few decades and
10 the historic agricultural economy have created tensions among
11 traditional water users; and

12 WHEREAS, water utilities have instituted conservation
13 measures, including rate structures to foster water use
14 efficiency and water infrastructure improvements; and

15 WHEREAS, the cost of water rights has risen
16 dramatically, even as ownership and control of water resources
17 continue to be sources of conflict among stakeholders and
18 communities of interest; and

19 WHEREAS, legal expenses and policy disputes escalate as
20 the continued availability of water supplies and delivery
21 systems becomes more doubtful;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
23 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state engineer and the director
24 of the interstate stream commission be requested to engage
25 with stakeholders to explore potential measures to address

1 water shortages and infrastructure needs; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that stakeholders include
3 representatives of agricultural, business, pueblos, tribes,
4 Indian nations and environmental interests; municipalities;
5 and rural, urban, senior and junior water rights owners and
6 users; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
8 transmitted to the state engineer, the director of the
9 interstate stream commission, the water dialogue, regional
10 water planning groups and regional water assemblies.

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