

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 9

2 **51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2013**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO CREATE A
12 WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON WAYS TO
13 INCREASE TRADE BETWEEN NEW MEXICO AND LATIN AMERICA.

14
15 WHEREAS, the trade industry supports approximately one out
16 of every five jobs in the United States; and

17 WHEREAS, as of 2009, approximately two hundred thirty-five
18 thousand nine hundred jobs in New Mexico were supported by the
19 trade industry, and over twenty-one percent of all jobs in the
20 state were dependent on trade; and

21 WHEREAS, trade and trade-related jobs are critical to New
22 Mexico's economy; and

23 WHEREAS, from 2008 through 2010, New Mexico imported
24 between six hundred million dollars (\$600,000,000) and six
25 hundred fifty million dollars (\$650,000,000) worth of goods

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1 from Mexico each year; and

2 WHEREAS, in 2011, New Mexico's imports from Mexico
3 drastically fell to just three hundred forty-seven million
4 dollars (\$347,000,000) worth of goods, and New Mexico now
5 imports more goods from China than any other country; and

6 WHEREAS, New Mexico's import activity is lower than all
7 but three states; based on the value of goods that the state
8 imported through October 2012, New Mexico ranked forty-seventh
9 in the nation, with approximately one billion nine hundred
10 million dollars (\$1,900,000,000) worth of imported goods; and

11 WHEREAS, in contrast to New Mexico's declining imports
12 from Mexico, the state's export of goods to Mexico has steadily
13 increased during the past four years, and Mexico is now the
14 primary export destination for goods leaving New Mexico; and

15 WHEREAS, even with increasing exports to Mexico, the state
16 ranks lower than all but five states in exporting; based on the
17 value of goods that the state exported through October 2012,
18 New Mexico ranked forty-fifth in the nation, with approximately
19 two billion five hundred million dollars (\$2,500,000,000) worth
20 of exported goods; and

21 WHEREAS, overall, the trade industry in the United States
22 has steadily grown during the last decade, primarily due to an
23 increase in free trade agreements and trade liberalization, and
24 New Mexico's economy would benefit by following this trend; and

25 WHEREAS, improving New Mexico's trade activity in general

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1 and, specifically, its trade with Mexico and other Latin
2 American countries would significantly benefit the state;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
4 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council
5 establish a working group to develop and make recommendations
6 on ways to increase trade between New Mexico and Latin America;
7 and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative council invite
9 representatives from the governor's office of policy and
10 planning, the economic development department, the university
11 of New Mexico and New Mexico state university to serve as
12 members of the working group; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative council name
14 to the working group additional members whose expertise could
15 contribute to the success of the working group's mission, as it
16 deems necessary; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group provide a
18 report of its recommendations to the appropriate legislative
19 interim committees by October 2013; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
21 transmitted to the governor, the co-chairs of the New Mexico
22 legislative council, the secretary of economic development, the
23 president of the university of New Mexico and the president of
24 New Mexico state university.