

1 A MEMORIAL

2 ENCOURAGING STATE AGENCIES TO SEEK A STRONGER ROLE IN WORKING
3 WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

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5 WHEREAS, since 2009, the United States department of
6 agriculture has made more than ten billion dollars
7 (\$10,000,000,000) in investments in New Mexico in economic
8 development, agriculture, trade, infrastructure, conservation
9 and research; and

10 WHEREAS, the United States department of agriculture is
11 critical to the success of state food and nutrition programs
12 by financing school breakfasts, lunches and snacks to
13 thousands of children and to seniors across the state every
14 day; and

15 WHEREAS, the United States department of agriculture's
16 natural resources conservation service makes critical
17 investments in the sustainability of New Mexico's land, water
18 and air; and

19 WHEREAS, the United States department of agriculture
20 rural development finances dozens of community water and
21 wastewater systems, with a special emphasis on tribal and
22 colonias projects; and

23 WHEREAS, the United States department of agriculture
24 helps sustain existing farmers and ranchers and is working to
25 support young farmers and ranchers through its farm service

1 agency; and

2 WHEREAS, the United States department of agriculture is
3 the largest public investor in broadband telecommunication in
4 New Mexico and offers millions of dollars in support annually
5 for New Mexico rural electric cooperatives; and

6 WHEREAS, the United States department of agriculture
7 works to support housing in New Mexico through home-repair,
8 home-loan and home-loan-guarantee programs; and

9 WHEREAS, the United States department of agriculture
10 supports local farmers' markets, supports New Mexico products
11 overseas and markets New Mexico products worldwide; and

12 WHEREAS, the United States department of agriculture is
13 currently engaged with dozens of New Mexico communities by
14 offering economic development planning and local investments
15 in health care facilities, telemedicine, distance learning
16 and other crucial areas;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
18 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that state
19 agencies be encouraged to seek a stronger role in partnering
20 with the United States department of agriculture in
21 supporting agriculture, rural development, water,
22 infrastructure, energy and broadband; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that state agencies be encouraged
24 to develop closer contact with the United States department
25 of agriculture to better understand how department funding

1 can be used to leverage state projects; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each appropriate cabinet
3 agency be requested to develop a plan with the United States
4 department of agriculture for potential state project
5 funding; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each appropriate cabinet
7 agency report its funding plan to the appropriate interim
8 legislative committee; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
10 transmitted to the director of the New Mexico department of
11 agriculture, the United States secretary of agriculture, the
12 director of the New Mexico state office of the United States
13 department of agriculture rural development and the office of
14 the governor for appropriate distribution to state agencies.

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