

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 13

2 **52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2016**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 George K. Munoz

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 RECOGNIZING THE CONGESTION ON NEW MEXICO STATE HIGHWAY 602
12 BETWEEN THE CITY OF GALLUP AND THE JUNCTION WITH STATE HIGHWAY
13 53 AND REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO MAKE THE
14 CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL PASSING LANES ON STATE HIGHWAY 602 A
15 PRIORITY.

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17 WHEREAS, the Zuni mountains and the Malpais lava fields
18 pose geologic barriers and limit the potential highway routes
19 between communities in McKinley and Cibola counties; and

20 WHEREAS, state highway 602 between the city of Gallup and
21 its junction with state highway 53 provides the only direct
22 north-south connection between the city of Gallup, the Pueblo
23 of Zuni, the Ramah Navajo chapter and other communities in
24 western McKinley and Cibola counties; and

25 WHEREAS, many residents of the communities along state

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1 highway 602 and state highway 53 work in the city of Gallup;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, state highway 602 is a school bus route for
4 students within the Gallup-McKinley County school district; and

5 WHEREAS, there is only one stretch of passing lane on
6 state highway 602 between its junction with state highway 53
7 and the city of Gallup; and

8 WHEREAS, traffic on state highway 602 is so heavily
9 congested during the peak morning and evening commuting hours
10 that residents of McKinley and Cibola counties often refer to
11 the highway as "a parking lot";

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
13 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of transportation be
14 requested to make it a priority to construct four additional
15 passing lanes along state highway 602 between its junction with
16 state highway 53 and the city of Gallup; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
18 transmitted to the secretary of transportation.

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