

1 A JOINT MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT TO ASSESS THE RISK
3 OF LEAD CONTAMINATION TO NEW MEXICANS AND TESTIFY TO THE
4 APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATURE THAT IS CONCERNED
5 WITH WATER AND NATURAL RESOURCE ISSUES.

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7 WHEREAS, recent national and world attention has been
8 directed at Flint, Michigan, and the state supply of potable
9 water; and

10 WHEREAS, the potable and household water supplied to
11 Flint was eroding the iron water mains, turning water brown;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, because certain water supply lines to homes in
14 Flint are made of lead, corrosive water caused leaching into
15 the water supply, in addition to the iron; and

16 WHEREAS, public officials became aware of lead
17 contamination of water being supplied to and consumed by
18 residents of Flint, including children, and failed to take
19 prompt action in response to that information; and

20 WHEREAS, lead poisoning is irreversible, causing serious
21 neurological injury, and there is no safe level for lead in a
22 person's bloodstream; and

23 WHEREAS, leaching of lead into drinking water through
24 delivery pipelines is not a Flint, Michigan, problem alone
25 nor a problem strictly associated with public drinking water

1 systems;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
3 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of environment be
4 requested to assess the risk to New Mexicans of lead
5 contamination in drinking water and testify by December 2017
6 to the appropriate New Mexico legislative council appointed
7 interim committee that reviews water and natural resources
8 issues; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial
10 be transmitted to the secretary of environment and to the
11 co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative council. _____

SJM 15
Page 2

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