

1 SENATE MEMORIAL 109

2 **53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2018**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 George K. Munoz

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10 A MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND FISH TO STUDY THE SOCIAL
12 AND ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF ELK DEPREDAATION IN NEW MEXICO AND
13 PROVIDE A REPORT.

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15 WHEREAS, the resident elk herd population in New Mexico
16 has been estimated at seventy thousand, and the Colorado
17 migratory elk herd population has been estimated at three
18 hundred thousand; and

19 WHEREAS, wildlife management areas established by the
20 department of game and fish in northern New Mexico have become
21 elk sanctuaries; and

22 WHEREAS, depredation by elk that comprise the resident
23 herd or migratory herd or elk living in the wildlife management
24 areas has had negative social and economic impacts on private
25 landowners; and

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underscored material = new
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1 WHEREAS, anecdotal evidence suggests that the level of
2 social and economic impacts suffered by private landowners is
3 increasing; and

4 WHEREAS, laws designed to protect the social and economic
5 interests of private landowners have been enacted; and

6 WHEREAS, it has been alleged that the department of game
7 and fish has not fully enforced existing laws, to the
8 continuing detriment of private landowners;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
10 OF NEW MEXICO that the department of game and fish be requested
11 to study the social and economic impacts of elk depredation in
12 New Mexico and report its conclusions and recommendations on
13 how to improve the situation to the appropriate legislative
14 interim committee on or before October 31, 2018; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department of game and
16 fish be requested to cooperate with private landowners and use
17 its authority under current law to minimize the social and
18 economic impacts of elk depredation; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
20 transmitted to the governor, the director of the department of
21 game and fish, the Rio Arriba county commissioners, the
22 northern New Mexico stockman's association and the Lincoln
23 county cattlemen's association.