

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 13

2 **54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Richard C. Martinez

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9  
10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THAT STATE AGENCIES, COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES  
12 INCLUDE CERTAIN PROVISIONS IN REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS TO TREAT  
13 TREES.

14  
15 WHEREAS, humankind has no greater friend on the earth than  
16 trees; and

17 WHEREAS, trees convert polluted air into clean oxygen that  
18 gives life and supports humankind's healthy existence on this  
19 fragile earth; and

20 WHEREAS, trees have become a part of humankind's history  
21 in New Mexico, as they have witnessed and marked times and  
22 historical events in people's lives; and

23 WHEREAS, many trees are routinely being cut down and  
24 destroyed on a regular basis from the grounds of schools,  
25 universities, government buildings and public areas; and

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1           WHEREAS, much of the destruction of trees is caused by a  
2 lack of education about effective methods of saving and  
3 preserving trees; and

4           WHEREAS, some persons in tree management are not on the  
5 cutting edge of new methods of saving and preserving trees; and

6           WHEREAS, it is easier to think it is simpler to cut the  
7 tree down and destroy the legacy of history of a tree's life  
8 and the cleansing powers of its leaves than to try to save the  
9 tree; and

10          WHEREAS, the destruction of trees steals New Mexico's  
11 children's legacy, as the children will never see or enjoy the  
12 trees that existed for tens or hundreds of years before their  
13 time; and

14          WHEREAS, trees are not only the corner post of humankind's  
15 existence on the planet given the air and water they filter and  
16 clean, but are also historical landmarks; and

17          WHEREAS, with new technology and education, almost all  
18 trees can be saved and can, with pruning and treatment, be  
19 restored to full health and live for decades or centuries more;  
20 and

21          WHEREAS, fungal cavities that once made it necessary to  
22 cut down a tree for safety's sake can now be treated to stop  
23 the fungi; and

24          WHEREAS, fungal cavities exposed to the air can be  
25 sterilized to kill fungal spores and refilled with a product

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1 that contains a long-acting macrobiotic and is stronger than  
2 the wood in the cavity it fills, making the tree safer than  
3 ever before and healthy for many years to come; and

4 WHEREAS, throughout New Mexico, cities are filled with  
5 partially dead and dying trees, and it should be the  
6 responsibility of each overseer of state, county and municipal  
7 property to treat each tree as a New Mexico treasure and remove  
8 dead branches and systemically treat any pathogen affecting a  
9 tree;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
11 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that when requests for proposals are  
12 written for saving trees from insect infestation or pruning,  
13 which trees are at least five inches in diameter when measured  
14 five feet above ground level, state agencies, counties and  
15 municipalities should be requested to include as a requirement  
16 of a request for proposals:

17 A. a guarantee of the life of the tree for a period  
18 of at least two years; and

19 B. a condition that should a tree die from  
20 parasites or disease within the guarantee period, the entity  
21 originally undertaking the treework will, at the entity's  
22 expense, cut down the tree and grind and remove the stump; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
24 transmitted to the governor, New Mexico counties and the New  
25 Mexico municipal league.

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