

1 SENATE BILL
2 **57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025**

3 INTRODUCED BY
4 Leo Jaramillo
5

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7
8 FOR THE LAND GRANT COMMITTEE
9

10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO LAND GRANTS; AMENDING A SECTION OF CHAPTER 49,
12 ARTICLE 1 NMSA 1978 TO INCLUDE THE SANTA CRUZ DE LA CANADA LAND
13 GRANT-MERCED AS A LAND GRANT GOVERNED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 49,
14 ARTICLE 1 NMSA 1978.
15

16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

17 SECTION 1. Section 49-1-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1907,
18 Chapter 42, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

19 "49-1-2. APPLICATION.--

20 A. Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978 shall apply to
21 all land grants-mercedes within the geographic boundaries of
22 lands confirmed by the congress of the United States or by the
23 court of private land claims or designated in any report or
24 list of land grants prepared by the surveyor general in
25 furtherance of meeting the obligations of the Treaty of

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1 Guadalupe Hidalgo and designated in this section but shall not
2 apply to any land grant that is now managed or controlled
3 pursuant to another section of Chapter 49 NMSA 1978.

4 B. If a majority of the members of the board of
5 trustees of a land grant-merced covered by specific legislation
6 determines that the specific legislation is no longer
7 beneficial to the land grant-merced, the board has the
8 authority to petition the legislature to repeal the legislation
9 and to be governed by its bylaws and as provided in Chapter 49,
10 Article 1 NMSA 1978.

11 C. The town of Tome land grant-merced, situated in
12 Valencia county, confirmed by congress in 1858 and patented by
13 the United States to the town of Tome, shall be governed by the
14 provisions of Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978.

15 D. The town of Atrisco land grant-merced, situated
16 in Bernalillo county, confirmed by the court of private land
17 claims in 1894 and patented by the United States to the town of
18 Atrisco in 1905, shall be governed by the provisions of Chapter
19 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978; provided that the board of trustees
20 shall not have regulatory jurisdiction over, and the provisions
21 of Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978 shall not apply to or
22 govern, any lands or interests in real property the title to
23 which is held by any other person, including a public or
24 private corporation, partnership or limited liability company.

25 E. The Tecolote land grant-merced, also known as

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1 the town of Tecolote, situated in San Miguel county, confirmed
2 by congress in 1858 and patented by the United States to the
3 town of Tecolote in 1902, shall be governed by the provisions
4 of Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978.

5 F. The San Antonio del Rio Colorado land grant-
6 merced, situated in Taos county, which claim was recommended
7 for confirmation by surveyor general James K. Proudfit in 1874
8 and again in 1886 by surveyor general George W. Julian, but not
9 confirmed by congress, shall be governed by the provisions of
10 Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978.

11 G. The Manzano land grant-merced, also known as la
12 merced del Manzano land grant-merced, situated in Torrance
13 county, confirmed by congress in 1860 and patented by the
14 United States to the town of Manzano in 1907, shall be governed
15 by the provisions of Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978.

16 H. The Arroyo Hondo Arriba community land grant-
17 merced, also known as the community of San Antonio and as the
18 community of Valdez, situated in Taos county, which was
19 established in 1823 and whose heirs were recognized as the fee
20 simple owners of the grant's common lands by the eighth
21 judicial district court of New Mexico in 1914, shall be
22 governed by the provisions of Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978.

23 I. The Anton Chico land grant-merced, also known as
24 the town of Anton Chico land grant, situated in Guadalupe and
25 San Miguel counties, confirmed by congress in 1860 and patented

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1 by the United States to the town of Anton Chico in 1883, shall
2 be governed by the provisions of Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA
3 1978.

4 J. The Abiquiu land grant-merced, also known as the
5 merced del Pueblo Abiquiu and town of Abiquiu land grant,
6 situated in Rio Arriba county, confirmed by the court of
7 private land claims in 1894 and patented by the United States
8 to the board of grant commissioners of the Abiquiu grant in
9 1909, shall be governed by the provisions of Chapter 49,
10 Article 1 NMSA 1978.

11 K. The Canon de Carnue land grant-merced, situated
12 in Bernalillo county, confirmed by the court of private land
13 claims in 1894 and patented by the United States to the
14 confirmees of the Canon de Carnue grant in 1903, shall be
15 governed by the provisions of Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978.

16 L. The Cebolleta land grant-merced, also known as
17 the town of Cebolleta land grant, situated in Cibola county,
18 confirmed by congress in 1869 and patented by the United States
19 to the town of Cebolleta land grant in 1882, shall be governed
20 by the provisions of Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978.

21 M. The Cristobal de la Serna land grant-merced,
22 situated in Taos county, confirmed by the court of private land
23 claims in 1892 and patented by the United States to the
24 Cristobal de la Serna grant in 1903, shall be governed by the
25 provisions of Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978.

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1 N. The Cubero land grant-merced, also known as the
2 town of Cubero land grant, situated in Cibola county, confirmed
3 by the court of private land claims in 1892 and patented by the
4 United States to the confirmees of the town of Cubero grant in
5 1900, shall be governed by the provisions of Chapter 49,
6 Article 1 NMSA 1978.

7 O. The Don Fernando de Taos land grant-merced,
8 situated in Taos county, confirmed by the court of private land
9 claims in 1897 and patented by the United States to the
10 confirmees of the Don Fernando de Taos grant in 1907, shall be
11 governed by the provisions of Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978.

12 P. The Santo Tomas Apostol del Rio de Las Trampas
13 land grant-merced, situated in Taos county, also known as the
14 town of Las Trampas land grant, confirmed by congress in 1860
15 and patented by the United States to the town of Las Trampas
16 grant in 1903, shall be governed by the provisions of Chapter
17 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978.

18 Q. The Santa Barbara land grant-merced, also known
19 as la merced de Santa Barbara, situated in Taos county,
20 confirmed by the court of private land claims in 1894 and
21 patented by the United States to the heirs of the Santa Barbara
22 grant in 1905, shall be governed by the provisions of Chapter
23 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978.

24 R. The Juan Bautista Baldes land grant-merced, also
25 known as the merced comunitara de Juan Bautista Baldes,

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1 situated in Rio Arriba county, confirmed by the court of
2 private land claims in 1898 and patented by the United States
3 to the heirs of Juan Bautista Baldes in 1913, shall be governed
4 by the provisions of Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978.

5 S. The San Joaquin del Rio de Chama land grant-
6 merced, also known as the merced de San Joaquin del Rio de
7 Chama and the Canon de Chama land grant-merced, situated in Rio
8 Arriba and Sandoval counties, confirmed by the court of private
9 land claims in 1894 and patented by the United States to the
10 heirs of the Canon de Chama grant in 1905, shall be governed by
11 the provisions of Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978.

12 T. The San Miguel del Bado land grant-merced, also
13 known as the merced de San Miguel del Bado, situated in San
14 Miguel county, confirmed by the court of private land claims in
15 1894 and patented by the United States to the board of the San
16 Miguel del Bado grant in 1910, shall be governed by the
17 provisions of Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978.

18 U. The Santo Domingo de Cundiyo land grant-merced,
19 situated in Santa Fe county, confirmed by the court of private
20 land claims in 1900 and patented by the United States to the
21 confirmees of the Santo Domingo de Cundiyo grant in 1903, shall
22 be governed by the provisions of Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA
23 1978.

24 V. The Tierra Amarilla land grant-merced, also
25 known as the merced de los Pueblos de Tierra Amarilla, situated

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1 in Rio Arriba county, confirmed by congress in 1860 and
2 patented by the United States to Francisco Martinez in 1881,
3 shall be governed by the provisions of Chapter 49, Article 1
4 NMSA 1978.

5 W. The San Antonio de las Huertas land grant-
6 merced, also known as the merced de San Antonio de las Huertas,
7 situated in Sandoval county, confirmed by the court of private
8 land claims in 1897 and patented by the United States to the
9 San Antonio de las Huertas grant claimants in 1907, shall be
10 governed by the provisions of Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978.

11 X. The Tajique land grant-merced, also known as the
12 town of Tajique land grant, situated in Tarrant county,
13 confirmed by congress in 1860 and patented by the United States
14 to the confirnees of the town of Tajique land grant in 1912,
15 shall be governed by the provisions of Chapter 49, Article 1
16 NMSA 1978.

17 Y. The Torreon land grant-merced, also known as the
18 town of Torreon, situated in Tarrant county, confirmed by
19 congress in 1860 and patented by the United States to the
20 confirnees of the town of Torreon grant in 1909, shall be
21 governed by the provisions of Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978.

22 Z. The Los Vigiles land grant-merced, situated in
23 San Miguel county, which was partitioned from the town of Las
24 Vegas grant through a deed of indenture issued by the board of
25 trustees for the Las Vegas grant and approved by the fourth

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1 judicial district of New Mexico in 1951, shall be governed by
2 the provisions of Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978.

3 AA. The Lower Gallinas land grant-merced, situated
4 in San Miguel county, which was partitioned from the town of
5 Las Vegas grant through a deed of indenture issued by the board
6 of trustees for the Las Vegas grant in 1951 and approved by the
7 fourth judicial district of New Mexico, the approval of which
8 was reaffirmed by the court in 1997, shall be governed by the
9 provisions of Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978.

10 BB. The San Augustin land grant-merced, situated in
11 San Miguel county, which was partitioned from the town of Las
12 Vegas grant through a deed of indenture issued by the board of
13 trustees for the Las Vegas grant and approved by the fourth
14 judicial district of New Mexico in 1929, shall be governed by
15 the provisions of Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978.

16 CC. The merced del Pueblo de Santa Cruz de la
17 Canada, also known as Santa Cruz de la Canada land grant-
18 merced, situated in Rio Arriba county and Santa Fe county,
19 which was confirmed by the court of private land claims in 1900
20 and patented by the United States to the heirs of the land
21 grant-merced in 1910, shall be governed by the provisions of
22 Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978."

23 SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the
24 provisions of this act is July 1, 2025.