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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 10  
42ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION,  
1996

INTRODUCED BY  
CARLOS R. CISNEROS

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL  
REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEE ON CONCERNS OF THE  
HANDICAPPED TO STUDY ISSUES RELATED TO MULTIPLE CHEMICAL  
SENSITIVITIES.

WHEREAS, people of all ages in New Mexico and worldwide  
have become chemically sensitized and suffer adverse health  
reactions to many building products, smoke, pesticides,  
fragrances and other chemicals; and

WHEREAS, the condition known variously as multiple chemical  
sensitivities, environmental illness or ecological illness has  
been recognized by state and federal agencies, including the  
United States department of housing and urban development, the  
social security administration, the environmental protection  
agency and the national academy of sciences; and

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1           WHEREAS, the causes of multiple chemical sensitivities are  
2 not fully understood, and there is controversy over this  
3 illness; and

4           WHEREAS, physicians in the Santa Fe-Los Alamos area have  
5 diagnosed more than one thousand five hundred patients with  
6 multiple chemical sensitivities, and the number of cases is  
7 increasing; and

8           WHEREAS, the health of the general population is at risk  
9 from high-level and chronic low-level chemical exposures that  
10 can lead to illnesses that may be preventable through reductions  
11 or avoidance of chemicals in air, water and food and in both  
12 indoor and outdoor environments; and

13           WHEREAS, people with multiple chemical sensitivities are  
14 often denied adequate housing, schooling, employment, health  
15 care, insurance, disability benefits, legal and counseling  
16 services and access to public places because of chemical  
17 barriers, ignorance or subtle or overt forms of discrimination;  
18 and

19           WHEREAS, educational programs and incentives could help  
20 reduce hazards and exposures in the workplace, leading to  
21 improved access to employment, increased productivity and  
22 reduction of injuries; and

23           WHEREAS, housing that is designed to be affordable and  
24 accessible to people with multiple chemical sensitivities would  
25 help stabilize or improve the health of those people, many of

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1 whom are forced to live outdoors or in substandard conditions;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, information about and recognition of multiple  
4 chemical sensitivities could improve opportunities for people  
5 with this condition to receive medical care, public benefits and  
6 services, to participate in and contribute to social, economic  
7 and civic affairs and to be protected from injury and have a  
8 better quality of life;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
10 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor's committee on concerns of  
11 the handicapped study, with the cooperation of the department of  
12 health, the human services department and other appropriate  
13 state agencies, the extent of problems faced by individuals with  
14 multiple chemical sensitivities or environmental illness; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include issues of  
16 health care, discrimination, public education, employment,  
17 housing, insurance, public benefits and services, access to  
18 government, legal services and environmental regulation; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study be reported to the  
20 interim legislative health and human services committee at its  
21 October 1996 meeting; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
23 transmitted to the governor's committee on concerns of the  
24 handicapped, the department of health and the human services  
25 department.

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1 FORTY- SECOND LEGI SLATURE  
2 SECOND SESSI ON, 1996  
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5 January 25, 1996  
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7 Mr. President:  
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9 Your RULES COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred  
10

11 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 10  
12

13 has had it under consideration and reports same with  
14 recommendation that it DO PASS.  
15

16 Respectfully submitted,  
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21 Gloria Howes, Chairman  
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25 Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ Not Adopted \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chi ef Clerk) (Chi ef Clerk)

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Date \_\_\_\_\_

The roll call vote was 6 For 0 Against

Yes: 6

No: 0

Excused: EJennings, Nava

Absent: None

SJ010RU2

# State of New Mexico House of Representatives

FORTY- SECOND LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION, 1996

February 9, 1996

Mr. Speaker:

Your ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE, to  
whom has been referred

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 10

has had it under consideration and reports same with  
recommendation that it DO PASS.

Respectfully submitted,

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James Roger Madalena, Chairman

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE  
SECOND SESSION, 1996

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Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ Not Adopted \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chief Clerk) (Chief Clerk)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

The roll call vote was 7 For 0 Against

Yes: 7

Excused: None

Absent: Light, McSorley, Ryan, Stewart

SJ010EN1

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