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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 2

42ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1996

INTRODUCED BY

MANNY M. ARAGON

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND THE REVENUE STABILIZATION AND TAX POLICY COMMITTEE

A JOINT RESOLUTION

PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE 8, SECTION 10 AND ARTICLE 12, SECTIONS 2, 4 AND 7 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF NEW MEXICO TO PROTECT THE STATE'S PERMANENT FUNDS AGAINST INFLATION BY LIMITING DISTRIBUTIONS TO A PERCENTAGE OF EACH FUND'S MARKET VALUE AND BY MODIFYING CERTAIN INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS TO ALLOW OPTIMAL DIVERSIFICATION OF INVESTMENTS.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. It is proposed to amend Article 8, Section 10 of the constitution of New Mexico to read:

"A. There shall be deposited in a permanent trust fund known as the "severance tax permanent fund" that part of state revenue derived from excise taxes [which] that have been or shall be designated severance taxes imposed upon the severance of natural resources within this state, in excess of

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that amount [which] that has been or shall be reserved by statute for the payment of principal and interest on outstanding bonds to which severance tax revenue has been or shall be Money in the severance tax permanent fund [shall not be expended but] shall be invested as provided by law. [The income from investments Distributions from the fund shall be appropriated by the legislature as other general operating revenue is appropriated for the benefit of the people of the state.

Money credited to the severance tax permanent fund at the time of the adoption of this amendment shall be credited to and become a part of the permanent trust fund known as the "severance tax permanent fund" hereby created.]

B. All additions to the fund and all earnings, including interest, dividends and capital gains from investment of the fund shall be credited to the corpus of the fund.

C. The annual distributions from the fund shall be one hundred two percent of the amount distributed in the immediately preceding fiscal year until the annual distributions equal four and seven-tenths percent of the average of the yearend market values of the fund for the immediately preceding five calendar years. Thereafter, the amount of the annual distributions shall be four and seven-tenths percent of the average of the year-end market values of the fund for the immediately preceding five calendar years.

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D. The frequency and the time of the distributions made pursuant to Subsection C of this section shall be as provided by law."

Section 2. It is proposed to amend Article 12, Section 2 of the constitution of New Mexico to read:

"The permanent school fund of the state shall consist of the proceeds of sales of Sections Two, Sixteen, Thirty-Two and Thirty-Six in each township of the state, or the lands selected in lieu thereof; the proceeds of sales of all lands that have been or may hereafter be granted to the state not otherwise appropriated by the terms and conditions of the grant; such portion of the proceeds of sales of land of the United States within the state as has been or may be granted by congress; all earnings, including interest, dividends and capital gains from investment of the permanent school fund; also all other grants, gifts and devises made to the state, the purpose of which is not otherwise specified."

Section 3. It is proposed to amend Article 12, Section 4 of the constitution of New Mexico to read:

"All [forefeitures] forfeitures, unless otherwise provided by law, and all fines collected under general laws; the net proceeds of property that may come to the state by escheat; the rentals of all school lands and other lands granted to the state, the disposition of which is not otherwise provided for by the terms of the grant or by act of congress [and the income

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derived from the permanent school fund] shall constitute the current school fund of the state."

Section 4. It is proposed to amend Article 12, Section 7 of the constitution of New Mexico to read:

"A. As used in this section, "fund" means the permanent school fund described in Section 2 of this article and all other permanent funds derived from lands granted or confirmed to the state by the act of congress of June 20, 1910, entitled "An act to enable the people of New Mexico to form a constitution and state government and be admitted into the union on an equal footing with the original states.

B. The [principal of the permanent school] fund [and other permanent funds | shall be invested by [a] the state investment officer in accordance with policy regulations promulgated by [a] the state investment council [The legislature may by a three-fourths vote of the members elected to each house provide that said funds may be invested in interest-bearing or other securities].

C. In making investments, the state investment officer, under the supervision of the state investment council, shall exercise the [iudgement] iudgment and care under the circumstances then prevailing [which] that businessmen of ordinary prudence, discretion and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs not in regard to speculation but in regard to the permanent disposition of their funds,

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considering the probable income as well as the probable safety of their capital. [provided]

D. The legislature may establish criteria for investing the fund if the criteria are enacted by a threefourths vote of the members elected to each house, but investment of the fund is subject to the following restrictions:

(1) not more than [fifty] sixty-five percent of the [permanent school fund or other permanent fund] book value of the fund shall be invested at any given time in corporate stocks [and bonds nor shall];

(2) not more than ten percent of the voting stock of a corporation shall be held [and provided further];

(3) stocks eligible for purchase shall be restricted to those stocks of businesses [incorporated within the United States which have paid dividends for ten consecutive years or longer immediately prior to the date of purchase and which are listed upon a national stock exchange or included in a nationally recognized list of stocks; and

(4) not more than fifteen percent of the book value of the fund may be invested in international securities at any single time.

E. All additions to the fund and all earnings, including interest, dividends and capital gains from investment of the fund shall be credited to the fund.

F. The annual distributions from the fund shall be

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one hundred two percent of the amount distributed in the immediately preceding fiscal year until the annual distributions equal four and seven-tenths percent of the average of the year-end market values of the fund for the immediately preceding five calendar years. Thereafter, the amount of the annual distributions shall be four and seven-tenths percent of the average of the year-end market values of the fund for the immediately preceding five calendar years. "

Section 5. The amendments proposed by this resolution shall be submitted to the people for their approval or rejection at the next general election or at any special election prior to that date which may be called for that purpose.

Section 6. The amendments proposed by Sections 2, 3 and 4 of this resolution shall not become effective without the consent of the United States congress.

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FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE SECOND SESSION, January 26, 1996 Mr. President: Your WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 2 has had it under consideration and reports same with recommendation that it DO PASS, and thence referred to the FINANCE COMMITTEE. Respectfully submitted, TITO D. CHAVEZ, Chairman Not Adopted__

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(Chief Clerk) (Chief Clerk) Date _____ The roll call vote was $\underline{6}$ For $\underline{1}$ Against Yes: No: Rawson Excused: Riley Absent: SJR02WM1

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FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

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Date _____ The roll call vote was $\underline{7}$ For $\underline{0}$ Against Yes: No: Excused: EJennings Absent: None SJR02RU1

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE SECOND SESSION, February 2, 1996 Mr. President: Your FINANCE COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 2 has had it under consideration and reports same with recommendation that it DO PASS. Respectfully submitted, Ben D. Altamirano, Chairman Not Adopted_____ Adopted__ (Chief Clerk) (Chief Clerk)

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Date _____

3 The roll call vote was 8 For 0 Against

4 Yes: 8

5 No: 0

6 Excused: Donisthorpe, Duran, Ingle, Kidd, Kysar

Absent: None

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