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SENATE MEMORIAL 11

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1998

INTRODUCED BY

CISCO McSORLEY

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO OPPOSE THE KYOTO
PROTOCOL.

WHEREAS, an increase in the concentration of carbon
dioxide and other "greenhouse gases" in the atmosphere may be
causing solar heat to be trapped close to the surface of the
earth and average temperatures to increase worldwide; and

WHEREAS, this increase in greenhouse gases may be
attributable to mankind's use of fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, a significant increase in global temperatures
could have disastrous effects on the earth's environment,
possibly including dramatic increases in sea levels and severe
weather events, wildlife habitat destruction and property
destruction; and

WHEREAS, some disagreement exists within the scientific
community over the extent to which global warming is
occurring, the extent to which it is being caused by human
activities, how harmful it may be to the environment and
whether governments should take action to control emissions of

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1 greenhouse gases; and

2 WHEREAS, the United States participated in an
3 international conference on global warning in Kyoto, Japan in
4 December of 1997; and

5 WHEREAS, a treaty known as the Kyoto Protocol, which
6 would require the United States to reduce emissions of
7 greenhouse gases by seven percent, the European union to
8 reduce emissions by eight percent and Japan to reduce
9 emissions by six percent below 1990 levels by 2012, was
10 adopted at the Kyoto conference; and

11 WHEREAS, the imposition of such emissions reductions
12 could impose significant costs on the coal industry, the
13 electric utility industry and other industries of importance
14 to New Mexico's economy and on consumers; and

15 WHEREAS, the Kyoto Protocol does not include limits on
16 greenhouse gas emissions in developing nations; and

17 WHEREAS, the issue of emissions limitations for
18 developing countries will next be addressed at an
19 international conference in Buenos Aires in November, 1998;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, the imposition of the Kyoto Protocol emissions
22 reductions could put the United States economy at a severe
23 competitive disadvantage if similar reductions are not imposed
24 in developing nations;

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
OF NEW MEXICO that the congress be urged to prevent the
ratification of the Kyoto Protocol unless developing nations
commit to limiting greenhouse gas emissions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be

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transmitted to the New Mexico congressional delegation.