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SENATE MEMORIAL 25

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

INTRODUCED BY

PAULINE B. EISENSTADT

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO DELEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES
CONGRESS TO SUPPORT STATISTICAL SAMPLING IN THE 2000 CENSUS IN
ORDER NOT TO UNDERCOUNT NEW MEXICO'S POPULATION.

WHEREAS, the United States census bureau estimates that
forty-eight thousand fifty-four New Mexicans went uncounted in
the 1990 census or about three and seven hundredths percent of
New Mexico's population; and

WHEREAS, the United States census bureau estimates that
American Indians on reservations were undercounted by twelve
and two-tenths percent and Hispanics by five percent; and

WHEREAS, this represents the highest undercount
percentage of any state and compares with a one and six-tenths
percent national average; and

WHEREAS, based on 1996 figures, the state loses about one

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1 hundred fifty dollars (\$150) a year in federal funds for every
2 uncounted person; and

3 WHEREAS, this represents more than seventy-two million
4 dollars (\$72,000,000) over the last decade in lost federal
5 funds for police, water works, sewers, roads and schools; and

6 WHEREAS, if New Mexico experienced the same undercount in
7 2000, fifty-seven thousand two hundred seven people would be
8 undercounted, which would amount to eighty-five million
9 dollars (\$85,000,000) in lost federal funds in the following
10 decade; and

11 WHEREAS, the census bureau this year proposed to use
12 scientific sampling in the 2000 census in order to give a more
13 accurate count of those living in rural areas and better
14 represent American Indians living on reservations and
15 Hispanics that the bureau says are the two most undercounted
16 ethnic groups; and

17 WHEREAS, scientific sampling could save federal taxpayers
18 up to eight hundred million dollars (\$800,000,000) on the next
19 census; and

20 WHEREAS, scientific sampling has been endorsed by the
21 national academy of sciences, the last four census directors,
22 the general accounting office and the United States conference
23 of mayors; and

24 WHEREAS, the United States justice department in the
25 Carter, Bush and Clinton administrations concluded that the

1 constitution and relevant laws permit the use of scientific
2 sampling in the decennial census;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
4 OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico delegation to United States
5 congress support all efforts to use scientific sampling in the
6 2000 census; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
8 transmitted to the New Mexico congressional delegation,
9 Secretary Daley of the United States department of commerce
10 and President Clinton.

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1 FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

2 SECOND SESSION, 1998

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5 February 17, 1998

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7 Mr. President:

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9 Your RULES COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

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11 SENATE MEMORIAL 25

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

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16 Respectfully submitted,

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22 _____
23 Gloria Howes, Chairman

Adopted _____ Not

Adopted _____

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(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

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Date _____

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The roll call vote was 5 For 0 Against

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Yes: 5

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No: 0

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Excused: Adair, Aragon, Gorham

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Absent: None

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SMD25RU1

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