

The Legislature
of the
State of New Mexico

51st Legislature, 2nd Session

LAWS 2014

CHAPTER _____

HOUSE MEMORIAL 80

Introduced by

REPRESENTATIVE ZACH J. COOK

AND ALL MEMBERS OF THE NEW MEXICO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO DIRECT THE
3 APPROPRIATE INTERIM COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP A LONG-TERM FUNDING
4 PLAN FOR FOREST AND WATERSHED RESTORATION WORK IN NEW MEXICO.
5

6 WHEREAS, New Mexico needs a large-scale forest and
7 watershed restoration program; and

8 WHEREAS, the urgency of the situation has been
9 established in the New Mexico forest action plan, New Mexico
10 forest and watershed health plan and the federal agency land
11 and resource management plans; and

12 WHEREAS, scientists and stakeholders agree that the
13 current level of active management on forest lands is
14 insufficient to address the scope, scale and pace needed to
15 restore these forests to a more resilient condition; and

16 WHEREAS, uncharacteristically large and intense
17 wildfires and insect epidemics are affecting federal forest
18 lands in acreages that dwarf the agencies' accomplishments in
19 actively managing forests to improve their resiliency; and

20 WHEREAS, if New Mexico waits for a federal solution, it
21 will be too late; and

22 WHEREAS, the state needs a coordinated, multi-partner
23 approach that leverages each federal dollar and pools revenue
24 from diverse state, local and Native American sources as well
25 as businesses and the private sector; and

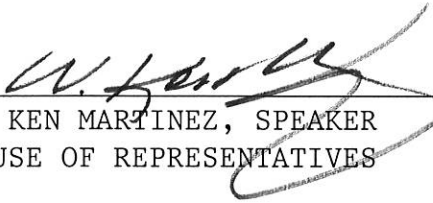
1 WHEREAS, the benefits of accelerated forest and
2 watershed restoration are numerous, including secure water
3 sources; resilient forests and habitat for wildlife; and
4 hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation opportunities as well
5 as New Mexico tourism and creation of jobs and economic
6 development in rural communities; and

7 WHEREAS, the alternative, which would be to take no
8 action, will result in damage to forests and water sources for
9 generations to come;


10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
11 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico
12 legislative council be requested to direct the appropriate
13 interim committee of the legislature to develop a long-term
14 funding plan for federal, state, local and tribal agencies and
15 diverse stakeholders to cooperate on forest and watershed
16 restoration work in New Mexico; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee report its
18 recommendations to the full legislature by the convening of
19 the first session of the fifty-second legislature in January
20 2015; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
22 transmitted to the state forester, the chair of the interstate
23 stream commission, the state engineer, the New Mexico
24 congressional delegation and the co-chairs of the New Mexico
25 legislative council.



W. KEN MARTINEZ, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



STEPHEN R. ARIAS, CHIEF CLERK
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES